PCT/EP2004/014490

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Dated 23 November 2004

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Request for grant of a patent

(See the notes on the back of this form. You can also get an explanatory leaflet from the Patent Office to help you fill in this form)

1.	Your Reference	APB/PB60739P 1
2.	Patent application number *(The Patent office will fill in this part)*	0405899.6
		16 MAR 2004 17MAR04 E881469-1 D02029 F01/7700 0.00-0405899.6 ACCOUNT CHA
3.	Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant *(underline all surnames)*	GLAXO GROUP LIMITED GLAXO WELLCOME HOUSE BERKELEY AVENUE GREENFORD MIDDLESEX UB6 ONN GB
	Patents ADP number *(if you know it)*	473587003
	If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its corporation	GB
4	Title of the invention	COMPOUNDS
5	Name of your agent *(if you have one)*	ANTHONY P BREEN
	"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent *(including the postcode)*	GLAXOSMITHKLINE CORPORATE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY 980 GREAT WEST ROAD BRENTFORD, MIDDLESEX TW8 9GS, GB
	Patents ADP number *(if you know it)*	8072555004

		Country	Priority application number *(if you know it)*	Date of Filing (day / month / year)
6.	Priority: Complete this section if you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, filed in the last 12 months			

		Number of earlier UK application	Date of filing (day / month / year)
7.	Divisionals: etc Complete this section only if this application is a divisional application or resulted from an entitlement dispute (see note f)		

8.	Is a Patents Form 7/77 (Statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent) required in support of this request?	YES

Answer YES if:

a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or

b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or

c) any named applicant is a corporate body

Otherwise answer NO See note (d)

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Patents Form 1/77

9. Accompanying documents: A patent application must include a description of the invention. Not counting duplicates, please enter the number of pages of each item accompanying this form:

Continuation sheet of this form	—
Description	188
Claim(s)	—
Abstract	—
Drawing(s)	-

2 – papers missing see minute

10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item

Priority Documents	
Translations of priority documents	
Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent *(Patents Form 7/77)*	
Request for preliminary examination and search *(Patent Form 9/77)*	
Request for substantive examination *(Patent Form 10/77)*	
Any other documents *(please specify)*	Form 23/77 and Fee Sheet ✓

11. I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application

A C CONNELL

Signature(s) A C Connell Date: 16 March 2004

12. Name and daytime telephone number and e-mail address, if any, of person to contact in the United Kingdom LESLEY WELLS 01 438 768599 ANTHONY BREEN 01438 762055

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After an application for a patent has been filed, the Comptroller of the Patent Office will consider whether publication or communication of the invention should be prohibited or restricted under Section 22 of the Patents Act 1977. You will be informed if it is necessary to prohibit or restrict your invention in this way. Furthermore, if you live in the United Kingdom, Section 23 of the Patents Act 1977 stops you from applying for a patent abroad without first getting written permission form the Patent Office unless an application has been filed at least 6 weeks beforehand in the United Kingdom for a patent for the same invention and either no direction prohibiting publication or communication has been given, or any such direction has been revoked

Notes

a) If you need help to fill in this form or you have any questions, please contact the Patent Office on 08459 500505.

b) Write your answers in capital letters using black ink or you may type them.

c) If there is not enough space for all the relevant details on any part of this form, please continue on a separate sheet of paper and write "see continuation sheet" in the relevant part(s). Any continuation sheet should be attached to this form

d) If you have answered "Yes" in part 8, a Patents Form 7/77 will need to be filed.

e) Once you have filled in the form you must remember to sign and date it.

f) Part 7 should only be completed when a divisional application is being made under section 15(4), or when an application is being made under section 8(3), 12(6) or 37(4) following an entitlement dispute. By completing part 7 you are requesting that this application takes the same filing date as an earlier UK application. If you want the new application to have the same priority date(s) as the earlier UK application, you should also complete part 6 with the priority details.

PB60739P1 GB

COMPOUNDS

The present invention relates to pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine compounds, processes for their preparation, intermediates usable in these processes, and pharmaceutical compositions containing the compounds. The invention also relates to the use of the pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine compounds in therapy, for example as inhibitors of phosphodiesterase type IV (PDE4) and/or for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of inflammatory and/or allergic diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, rheumatoid arthritis or allergic rhinitis.

Background to the Invention

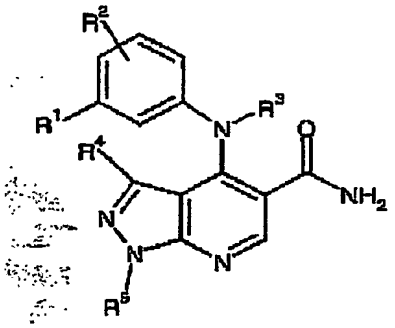
US 3,979,399, US 3,840,546, and US 3,966,746 (E.R.Squibb & Sons) disclose 4-amino derivatives of pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamides wherein the 4-amino group NR_3R_4 can be an acyclic amino group wherein R_3 and R_4 may each be hydrogen, lower alkyl (e.g. butyl), phenyl, etc.; NR_3R_4 can alternatively be a 3-6-membered heterocyclic group such as pyrrolidino, piperidino and piperazino. The compounds are disclosed as central nervous system depressants useful as ataractic, analgesic and hypotensive agents.

US 3,925,388, US 3,856,799, US 3,833,594 and US 3,755,340 (E.R.Squibb & Sons) disclose 4-amino derivatives of pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxylic acids and esters. The 4-amino group NR_3R_4 can be an acyclic amino group wherein R_3 and R_4 may each be hydrogen, lower alkyl (e.g. butyl), phenyl, etc.; NR_3R_4 can alternatively be a 5-6-membered heterocyclic group in which an additional nitrogen is present such as pyrrolidino, piperidino, pyrazolyl, pyrimidinyl, pyridazinyl or piperazinyl. The compounds are mentioned as being central nervous system depressants useful as ataractic agents or tranquilisers, as having antiinflammatory and analgesic properties. The compounds are mentioned as increasing the intracellular concentration of adenosine-3',5'-cyclic monophosphate and for alleviating the symptoms of asthma.

H. Hoehn et al., *J. Heterocycl. Chem.*, 1972, 9(2), 235-253 discloses a series of 1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxylic acid derivatives with 4-hydroxy, 4-chloro, 4-alkoxy, 4-hydrazino, and 4-amino substituents.

CA 1003419, CH 553 799 and T.Denzel, *Archiv der Pharmazie*, 1974, 307(3), 177-186 disclose 4,5-disubstituted 1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridines unsubstituted at the 1-position.

Japanese laid-open patent application JP-2002-20386-A (Ono Yakuhin Kogyo KK) published on 23 January 2002 discloses pyrazolopyridine compounds of the following formula:



JP-2002-20386-A (Ono)

wherein R^1 denotes 1) a group $-OR^6$, 2) a group $-SR^7$, 3) a C2-8 alkynyl group, 4) a nitro group, 5) a cyano group, 6) a C1-8 alkyl group substituted by a hydroxy group or a C1-8 alkoxy group, 7) a phenyl group, 8) a group $-C(O)R^8$, 9) a group $-SO_2NR^9R^{10}$, 10) a group $-NR^{11}SO_2R^{12}$, 11) a group $-NR^{13}C(O)R^{14}$ or 12) a group $-CH=NR^{15}$. R^6 and R^7 denote i) a hydrogen atom, ii) a C1-8 alkyl group, iii) a C1-8 alkyl group substituted by a C1-8 alkoxy group, iv) a trihalomethyl group, v) a C3-7 cycloalkyl group, vi) a C1-8 alkyl group substituted by a phenyl group or vii) a 3-15 membered mono-, di- or tricyclic hetero ring containing 1-4 nitrogen atoms, 1-3 oxygen atoms and/or 1-3 sulphur atoms. R^2 denotes 1) a hydrogen atom or 2) a C1-8 alkoxy group. R^3 denotes 1) a hydrogen atom or 2) a C1-8 alkyl group. R^4 denotes 1) a hydrogen atom, 2) a C1-8 alkyl group, 3) a C3-7 cycloalkyl group, 4) a C1-8 alkyl group substituted by a C3-7 cycloalkyl group, 5) a phenyl group which may be substituted by 1-3 halogen atoms or 6) a 3-15 membered mono-, di- or tricyclic hetero ring containing 1-4 nitrogen atoms, 1-3 oxygen atoms and/or 1-3 sulphur atoms. R^5 denotes 1) a hydrogen atom, 2) a C1-8 alkyl group, 3) a C3-7 cycloalkyl group, 4) a C1-8 alkyl group substituted by a C3-7 cycloalkyl group or 5) a phenyl group which may be substituted by 1-3 substituents. In group R^3, a hydrogen atom is preferred. In group R^4, methyl, ethyl, cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl or cyclopentyl are preferred. The compounds of JP-2002-20386-A are stated as having PDE4 inhibitory activity and as being useful in the prevention and/or treatment of inflammatory diseases and many other diseases.

1,3-Dimethyl-4-(arylamino)-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridines with a 5-$C(O)NH_2$ substituent similar or identical to those in JP-2002-20386-A were disclosed as orally active PDE4 inhibitors by authors from Ono Pharmaceutical Co. in: H. Ochiai et al., *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.*, 5th January 2004 issue, vol. 14(1), pp. 29-32 (available on or before 4th December 2003 from the Web version of the journal: "articles in press").

EP 0 076 035 A1 (ICI Americas) discloses pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine derivatives as central nervous system depressants useful as tranquilisers or ataractic agents for the relief of anxiety and tension states.

The compound cartazolate, ethyl 4-(n-butylamino)-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]-pyridine-5-carboxylate, is known. J.W. Daly et al., *Med. Chem. Res.*, 1994, 4, 293-306 and D. Shi et al., *Drug Development Research*, 1997, 42, 41-56 disclose a series of 4-

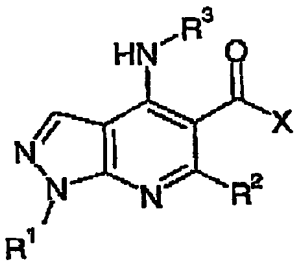
(amino)substituted 1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxylic acid derivatives, including ethyl 4-cyclopentylamino-1-methyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxylate, and their affinities and antagonist activities at A_1- and A_{2A}-adenosine receptors, and the latter paper discloses their affinities at various binding sites of the $GABA_A$-receptor channel.

S. Schenone et al., *Bioorg. Med. Chem. Lett.*, 2001, 11, 2529-2531, and F. Bondavalli et al., *J. Med. Chem.*, 2002, vol. 45 (Issue 22, 24 October 2002, allegedly published on Web 09/24/2002), pp. 4875-4887 disclose a series of 4-amino-1-(2-chloro-2-phenylethyl)-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxylic acid ethyl esters as A_1-adenosine receptor ligands.

WO 02/060900 A2 appears to disclose, as MCP-1 antagonists for treatment of allergic, inflammatory or autoimmune disorders or diseases, a series of bicyclic heterocyclic compounds with a $-C(O)-NR^4-C(O)-NR^5R^6$ substituent, including isoxazolo[5,4-b]pyridines and 1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridines (named as pyrazolo[5,4-b]pyridines) with the $-C(O)-NR^4-C(O)-NR^5R^6$ group as the 5-substituent and optionally substituted at the 1-, 3-, 4-, and/or 6-positions. Bicyclic heterocyclic compounds with a $-C(O)NH_2$ substituent instead of the $-C(O)-NR^4-C(O)-NR^5R^6$ substituent are alleged to be disclosed in WO 02/060900 as intermediates in the synthesis of the $-C(O)-NR^4-C(O)-NR^5R^6$ substituted compounds.

WO 00/15222 (Bristol-Myers Squibb) discloses *inter alia* pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridines having *inter alia* a $C(O)-X_1$ group at the 5-position and a group E_1 at the 4-position of the ring system. Amongst other things, X_1 can for example be $-OR_9$, $-N(R_9)(R_{10})$ or $-N(R_5)(-A_2-R_2)$, and E_1 can for example be $-NH-A_1$-cycloalkyl, $-NH-A_1$-substituted cycloalkyl, or $-NH-A_1$-heterocyclo; wherein A_1 is an alkylene or substituted alkylene bridge of 1 to 10 carbons and A_2 can for example be a direct bond or an alkylene or substituted alkylene bridge of 1 to 10 carbons. The compounds are disclosed as being useful as inhibitors of cGMP phosphodiesterase, especially PDE type V, and in the treatment of various cGMP-associated conditions such as erectile dysfunction. Compounds with a cycloalkyl or heterocyclo group directly attached to -NH- at the 4-position of the pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine ring system and/or having PDE4 inhibitory activity do not appear to be disclosed in WO 00/15222.

Copending unpublished patent application PCT/EP03/11814, filed on 12 September 2003 in the name of Glaxo Group Limited, and incorporated herein by reference, discloses pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine compounds or salts thereof with a $4-NHR^3$ group and a 5-C(O)-X group, according to this formula (I):



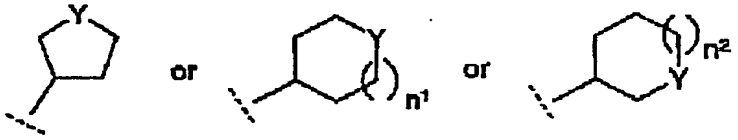
(I)

wherein:

R^1 is C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-3}fluoroalkyl, $-CH_2CH_2OH$ or $-CH_2CH_2CO_2C_{1-2}$alkyl;

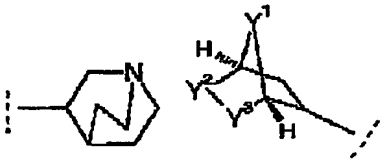
R^2 is a hydrogen atom (H), methyl or C_1fluoroalkyl;

R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl or optionally substituted mono-unsaturated-C_{5-7}cycloalkenyl or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc);



(aa) (bb) (cc)

in which n^1 and n^2 independently are 1 or 2; and in which Y is O, S, SO_2, or NR^{10};



(dd) (ee)

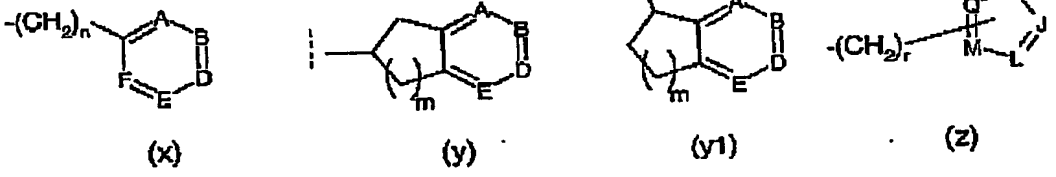
or R^3 is a bicyclic group (dd) or (ee): ;

and wherein X is NR^4R^5 or OR^{5a}.

In PCT/EP03/11814, R^4 is a hydrogen atom (H); C_{1-6}alkyl; C_{1-3}fluoroalkyl; or C_{2-6}alkyl substituted by one substituent R^{11}.

In PCT/EP03/11814, R^5 can be: a hydrogen atom (H); C_{1-8}alkyl; C_{1-8} fluoroalkyl; C_{3-8}cycloalkyl optionally substituted by a C_{1-2}alkyl group; $-(CH_2)_n{}^4-C_{3-8}$cycloalkyl optionally substituted, in the $-(CH_2)_n{}^4-$ moiety or in the C_{3-8}cycloalkyl moiety, by a C_{1-2}alkyl group, wherein n^4 is 1, 2 or 3; C_{2-6}alkyl substituted by one or two independent substituents R^{11}; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{11}-C(O)R^{16}$; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{12}-C(O)NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-CHR^{19}-C(O)NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{12}-C(O)OR^{16}$; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{12}-C(O)OH$; $-CHR^{19}-C(O)OR^{16}$; $-CHR^{19}-C(O)OH$; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{12}-SO_2-NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{12}-SO_2R^{16}$; or $-(CH_2)_n{}^{12}-CN$; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{13}$-Het; or optionally substituted phenyl.

Alternatively, in PCT/EP03/11814, R^5 can have the sub-formula (x), (y), (y1) or (z):



(x) (y) (y1) (z)

wherein in sub-formula (x), n = 0, 1 or 2; in sub-formula (y) and (y1), m = 1 or 2; and in sub-formula (z), r = 0, 1 or 2; and wherein in sub-formula (x) and (y) and (y1), none, one or two of A, B, D, E and F are independently nitrogen or nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-) provided that no more than one of A, B, D, E and F is nitrogen-oxide, and the remaining of A, B, D, E and F are independently CH or CR^6; and provided that when n is 0 in sub-formula (x) then one or two of A, B, D, E and F are independently nitrogen or nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-) and no more than one of A, B, D, E and F is nitrogen-oxide;

In PCT/EP03/11814, each R^6, independently of any other R^6 present, is: a halogen atom; C_{1-6}alkyl; C_{1-4}fluoroalkyl; C_{1-4}alkoxy; C_{1-2}fluoroalkoxy; C_{3-6}cycloalkyloxy; $-C(O)R^{16a}$; $-C(O)OR^{30}$; $-S(O)_2-R^{16a}$; $R^{16a}-S(O)_2-NR^{15a}-$; $R^7R^8N-S(O)_2-$; C_{1-2}alkyl-C(O)-$R^{15a}N-S(O)_2-$; C_{1-4}alkyl-S(O)-; Ph-S(O)-; R^7R^8N-CO-; $-NR^{15}-C(O)R^{16}$; R^7R^8N; OH; C_{1-4}alkoxymethyl; C_{1-4}alkoxyethyl; C_{1-2}alkyl-$S(O)_2-CH_2-$; $R^7R^8N-S(O)_2-CH_2-$; C_{1-2}alkyl-$S(O)_2-NR^{15a}-CH_2-$; $-CH_2-OH$; $-CH_2CH_2-OH$; $-CH_2-NR^7R^8$; $-CH_2-CH_2-NR^7R^8$; $-CH_2-C(O)OR^{30}$; $-CH_2-C(O)-NR^7R^8$; $-CH_2-NR^{15a}-C(O)-C_{1-3}$alkyl; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{14}$-Het^1 where n^{14} is 0 or 1; cyano (CN); Ar^{5b}; or phenyl, pyridinyl or pyrimidinyl wherein the phenyl, pyridinyl or pyrimidinyl independently are optionally substituted by one or two of fluoro, chloro, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy;

or two adjacent R^6 taken together can be $-O-(CMe_2)-O-$ or $-O-(CH_2)_n{}^{14}-O-$ where n^{14} is 1 or 2.

In PCT/EP03/11814, in sub-formula (z), G is O or S or NR^9 wherein R^9 is a hydrogen atom (H), C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-4}fluoroalkyl; none, one, two or three of J, L, M and Q are nitrogen; and the remaining of J, L, M and Q are independently CH or CR^6 where R^6, independently of any other R^6 present, is as defined therein.

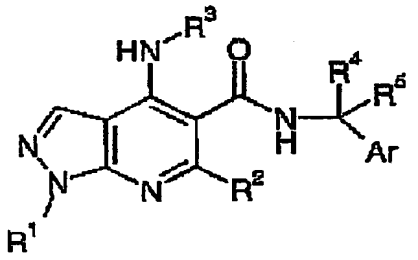
The pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine compounds of formula (I) and salts thereof disclosed in PCT/EP03/11814 are disclosed as being inhibitors of phosphodiesterase type IV (PDE4), and as being useful for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of an inflammatory and/or

allergic diseases such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, rheumatoid arthritis, or allergic rhinitis.

The Invention

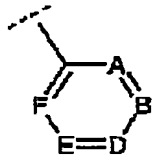
We have now found new pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine compounds, having a -C(O)-NH-C(R^4)(R^5)-aryl substituent at the 5-position of the pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine ring system wherein at least one of R^4 and R^5 is not a hydrogen atom (H), which compounds inhibit phosphodiesterase type IV (PDE4).

The present invention therefore provides a compound of formula (I) or a salt thereof (in particular, a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof):

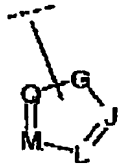


(I)

wherein Ar has the sub-formula (x) or (z):



(x)



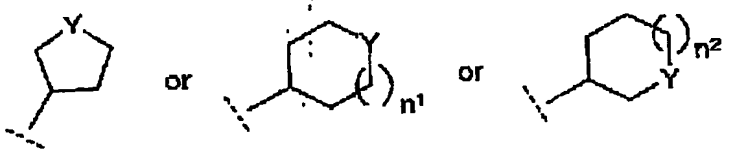
(z)

and wherein:

R^1 is C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-3}fluoroalkyl, or -CH_2CH_2OH;

R^2 is a hydrogen atom (H), methyl or C_1fluoroalkyl;

R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl or optionally substituted mono-unsaturated-C_{5-7}cycloalkenyl or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc);

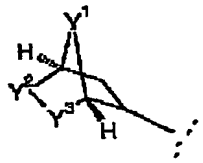


(aa) (bb) (cc)

in which n^1 and n^2 independently are 1 or 2; and in which Y is O, S, SO_2, or NR^{10}; where R^{10} is a hydrogen atom (H), C_{1-2}alkyl, C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl, $CH_2C(O)NH_2$, $C(O)NH_2$, C(O)NHMe, $C(O)$-C_{1-2}alkyl, C(O)-C_1fluoroalkyl or -C(O)-CH_2O-C_{1-2}alkyl;

and wherein in R^3 the C_{3-8}cycloalkyl or the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc) is optionally substituted on a ring carbon with one or two substituents independently being oxo (=O); OH; C_{1-2}alkoxy; C_{1-2}fluoroalkoxy; NHR^{21} wherein R^{21} is a hydrogen atom (H) or C_{1-4} straight-chain alkyl; C_{1-2}alkyl; C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl; $-CH_2OH$; $-CH_2CH_2OH$; $-CH_2NHR^{22}$ wherein R^{22} is H or C_{1-2}alkyl; $-C(O)OR^{23}$ wherein R^{23} is H or C_{1-2}alkyl; $-C(O)NHR^{24}$ wherein R^{24} is H or C_{1-2}alkyl; $-C(O)R^{25}$ wherein R^{25} is C_{1-2}alkyl; fluoro; hydroxyimino (=N-OH); or (C_{1-4}alkoxy)imino (=N-OR^{26} where R^{26} is C_{1-4}alkyl); and wherein any OH, alkoxy, fluoroalkoxy or NHR^{21} substituent is not substituted at the R^3 ring carbon attached (bonded) to the -NH- group of formula (I) and is not substituted at either R^3 ring carbon bonded to the Y group of the heterocyclic group (aa), (bb) or (cc);

and wherein, when R^3 is optionally substituted mono-unsaturated-C_{5-7}cycloalkenyl, then the cycloalkenyl is optionally substituted with one substituent being fluoro or C_{1-2}alkyl or two substituents independently being fluoro or methyl , and the R^3 ring carbon bonded to the -NH- group of formula (I) does not partake in the cycloalkenyl double bond;



(ee)

or R^3 is a bicyclic group of sub-formula (ee): wherein Y^1, Y^2 and Y^3 independently are CH_2 or oxygen (O) provided that no more than one of Y^1, Y^2 and Y^3 is oxygen (O);

and wherein:

R^4 is a hydrogen atom (H), methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl, cyclopropyl, $-CH_2OR^{4a}$, $-CH(Me)OR^{4a}$, or $-CH_2CH_2OR^{4a}$, wherein R^{4a} is a hydrogen atom (H), methyl (Me), or C_1fluoroalkyl such as CF_3 or CHF_2; and

R^5 is a hydrogen atom (H); C_{1-8}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-4}alkyl); C_{1-3}fluoroalkyl; C_{3-8}cycloalkyl optionally substituted by a C_{1-2}alkyl group; or $-(CH_2)_n{}^4-C_{3-8}$cycloalkyl optionally substituted, in the $-(CH_2)_n{}^4-$ moiety or in the C_{3-8}cycloalkyl moiety, by a C_{1-2}alkyl group, wherein n^4 is 1 or 2;

or R^5 is C_{1-4}alkyl substituted by one substituent R^{11}; wherein R^{11} is: hydroxy (OH); C_{1-6}alkoxy; C_{1-2}fluoroalkoxy; phenyloxy; (monofluoro- or difluoro-phenyl)oxy; (monomethyl- or dimethyl-phenyl)oxy; benzyloxy; $-NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-NR^{15}-C(O)R^{16}$; $-NR^{15}-C(O)-NH-R^{15}$; or $-NR^{15}-S(O)_2R^{16}$;

or R^5 is C_{2-4}alkyl substituted on different carbon atoms by two hydroxy (OH) substituents;

or R^5 is $-(CH_2)_n{}^{11}-C(O)R^{16}$; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{11}-C(O)NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-CHR^{19}-C(O)NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{11}-C(O)OR^{16}$; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{11}-C(O)OH$; $-CHR^{19}-C(O)OR^{16}$; $-CHR^{19}-C(O)OH$; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{11}-S(O)_2-NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-(CH_2)_n{}^{11}-S(O)_2R^{16}$; or $-(CH_2)_n{}^{11}-CN$; wherein n^{11} is 0, 1, 2 or 3 (wherein for each R^5 group n^{11} is independent of the value of n^{11} in other R^5 groups); and wherein R^{19} is C_{1-2}alkyl;

or R^5 is $-(CH_2)_n{}^{13}$-Het, wherein n^{13} is 0, 1 or 2 and Het is a 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic ring, other than $-NR^{12}R^{13}$, containing one or two ring-hetero-atoms independently selected from O, S, and N; wherein any ring-hetero-atoms present are not bound to the $-(CH_2)_n{}^{13}-$ moiety when n^{13} is 0; wherein any ring-nitrogens which are present and which are not unsaturated (i.e. which do not partake in a double bond) and which are not connecting nitrogens (i.e. which are not nitrogens bound to the $-(CH_2)_n{}^{13}-$ moiety or to the carbon atom to which R^5 is attached) are present as NR^{17}; and wherein one or two of the carbon ring-atoms are independently optionally substituted by C_{1-2}alkyl;

or R^5 is phenyl (Ph), $-CH_2$-Ph, -CHMe-Ph, -CHEt-Ph, CMe_2Ph, or $-CH_2CH_2$-Ph, wherein the phenyl ring Ph is optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently being: a halogen atom; C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl); C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl (e.g. trifluoromethyl); C_{1-4}alkoxy (e.g. C_{1-2}alkoxy); C_{1-2}fluoroalkoxy (e.g. trifluoromethoxy

or difluoromethoxy); cyclopropyl; cyclopropyloxy; -C(O)-C_{1-4}alkyl; -C(O)OH; -C(O)-OC_{1-4}alkyl; C_{1-4}alkyl-S(O)$_2$-; C_{1-4}alkyl-S(O)$_2$-NR^{8a}-; $R^{7a}R^{8a}N$-S(O)$_2$-; $R^{7a}R^{8a}N$-C(O)-; -NR^{8a}-C(O)-C_{1-4}alkyl; $R^{7a}R^{8a}N$; OH; nitro (-NO_2); or cyano (-CN);

or R^4 and R^5 taken together are -$(CH_2)_p{}^1$- or -$(CH_2)_p{}^3$-X^5-$(CH_2)_p{}^4$-, in which: X^5 is O or NR^{17a}; p^1 = 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6, and p^3 and p^4 independently are 1, 2 or 3 provided that if p^3 is 3 then p^4 is 1 or 2 and if p^4 is 3 then p^3 is 1 or 2;

provided that at least one of R^4 and R^5 is not a hydrogen atom (H);

and wherein, in sub-formula (x):

A is C-R^{6A}, nitrogen (N) or nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-),
B is C-R^{6B}, nitrogen (N) or nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-),
D is C-R^{6D}, nitrogen (N) or nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-),
E is C-R^{6E}, nitrogen (N) or nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-),
F is C-R^{6F}, nitrogen (N) or nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-),

wherein, R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and R^{6F} independently are: a hydrogen atom (H), a halogen atom; C_{1-6}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-2}alkyl); C_{1-4}fluoroalkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl); C_{3-6}cycloalkyl; C_{1-4}alkoxy (e.g. C_{1-2}alkoxy); C_{1-2}fluoroalkoxy; C_{3-6}cycloalkyloxy; -C(O)R^{16a}; -C(O)OR^{30}; -S(O)$_2$-R^{16a} (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl-S(O)$_2$-); R^{16a}-S(O)$_2$-NR^{15a}- (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl-S(O)$_2$-NH-); R^7R^8N-S(O)$_2$-; C_{1-2}alkyl-C(O)-$R^{15a}N$-S(O)$_2$-; C_{1-4}alkyl-S(O)-, Ph-S(O)-, R^7R^8N-CO-; -NR^{15a}-C(O)R^{16a}; R^7R^8N; nitro (-NO_2); OH (including any tautomer thereof); C_{1-4}alkoxymethyl; C_{1-4}alkoxyethyl; C_{1-2}alkyl-S(O)$_2$-CH_2-; R^7R^8N-S(O)$_2$-CH_2-; C_{1-2}alkyl-S(O)$_2$-NR^{15a}-CH_2-; -CH_2-OH; -CH_2CH_2-OH; -CH_2-NR^7R^8; -CH_2-CH_2-NR^7R^8; -CH_2-C(O)OR^{30}; -CH_2-C(O)-NR^7R^8; -CH_2-NR^{15a}-C(O)-C_{1-3}alkyl; -$(CH_2)_n{}^{14}$-Het^1 where n^{14} is 0 or 1; cyano (-CN); Ar^{5b}; or phenyl, pyridinyl or pyrimidinyl wherein the phenyl, pyridinyl or pyrimidinyl independently are optionally substituted by one or two of fluoro, chloro, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy;

and/or two adjacent groups selected from R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and R^{6F} are taken together and are: -CH=CH-CH=CH_2-, -$(CH_2)_n{}^{14a}$- where n^{14a} is 3, 4 or 5 (e.g. 3 or 4), -O-(CMe_2)-O-, -O-$(CH_2)_n{}^{14b}$-O- where n^{14b} is 1 or 2; -CH=CH-NR^{15b}-;

-N=CH-NR^{15b}-; -CH=N-NR^{15b}-; -N=N-NR^{15b}-; -CH=CH-O-; -N=CH-O-; -CH=CH-S-; or -N=CH-S-; wherein R^{15b} is H or C_{1-2}alkyl;

provided that:

two or more of A, B, D, E and F are independently C-H (carbon-hydrogen), C-F (carbon-fluorine), nitrogen (N), or nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-);

and no more than two of A, B, D, E and F are independently nitrogen or nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-),

and no more than one of A, B, D, E and F is nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-);

and wherein, in sub-formula (z):

G is O or S or NR^9 wherein R^9 is a hydrogen atom (H), C_{1-4}alkyl, or C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl;

J is C-R^{6J}, C-[connection point to formula (I)], or nitrogen (N),
L is C-R^{6L}, C-[connection point to formula (I)], or nitrogen (N),
M is C-R^{6M}, C-[connection point to formula (I)], or nitrogen (N),
Q is C-R^{6Q}, C-[connection point to formula (I)], or nitrogen (N),

wherein, R^{6J}, R^{6L}, R^{6M} and R^{6Q} independently are: a hydrogen atom (H), a halogen atom; C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl); C_{1-3}fluoroalkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl); C_{3-6}cycloalkyl; C_{1-4}alkoxy (e.g. C_{1-2}alkoxy); C_{1-2}fluoroalkoxy; C_{3-6}cycloalkyloxy; OH (including any tautomer thereof); or phenyl optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently being fluoro, chloro, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy;

provided that:

two or more of J, L, M and Q are independently C-H, C-F, C-C_{1-2}alkyl (e.g. C-Me), C-[connection point to formula (I)], or nitrogen (N);

and no more than three of J, L, M and Q are nitrogen (N);

and wherein:

R^7 and R^8 are independently a hydrogen atom (H); C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl such as methyl); C_{3-6}cycloalkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently being: fluoro, chloro, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy;

or R^7 and R^8 together are $-(CH_2)_n{}^6-$ or $-C(O)-(CH_2)_n{}^7-$ or $-C(O)-(CH_2)_n{}^{10}-C(O)-$ or $-(CH_2)_n{}^8-X^7-(CH_2)_n{}^9-$ or $-C(O)-X^7-(CH_2)_n{}^{10}-$ in which: n^6 is 3, 4, 5 or 6, n^7 is 2, 3, 4, or 5, n^8 and n^9 and n^{10} independently are 2 or 3, and X^7 is O or NR^{14};

R^{7a} is a hydrogen atom (H) or C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^{8a} is a hydrogen atom (H) or methyl;

R^{12} and R^{13} independently are H; C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl); C_{3-6}cycloalkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently being: fluoro, chloro, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy;

or R^{12} and R^{13} together are $-(CH_2)_n{}^{6a}-$ or $-C(O)-(CH_2)_n{}^{7a}-$ or $-C(O)-(CH_2)_n{}^{10a}-C(O)-$ or $-(CH_2)_n{}^{8a}-X^{12}-(CH_2)_n{}^{9a}-$ or $-C(O)-X^{12}-(CH_2)_n{}^{10a}-$ in which: n^{6a} is 3, 4, 5 or 6, n^{7a} is 2, 3, 4, or 5, n^{8a} and n^{9a} and n^{10a} independently are 2 or 3 and X^{12} is O or NR^{14a};

R^{14}, R^{14a}, R^{17} and R^{17a} independently are: a hydrogen atom (H); C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl); C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl (e.g. CF_3); cyclopropyl; $-C(O)-C_{1-4}$alkyl (e.g. -C(O)Me); $-C(O)NR^{7a}R^{8a}$ (e.g. $-C(O)NH_2$); or $-S(O)_2-C_{1-4}$alkyl (e.g. $-S(O)_2Me$);

R^{15}, independent of other R^{15}, is a hydrogen atom (H); C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. ^{t}Bu or C_{1-2}alkyl e.g. methyl); C_{3-6}cycloalkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted by one or two of: a halogen atom, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy;

R^{15a}, independent of other R^{15a}, is a hydrogen atom (H) or C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^{16} is: C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl); C_{3-6}cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{5-6}cycloalkyl); C_{3-6}cycloalkyl-CH_2- (e.g. C_{5-6}cycloalkyl-CH_2-); or phenyl or benzyl, wherein the phenyl and benzyl are independently optionally substituted on their ring by one or two substituents independently being fluoro, chloro, methyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, methoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy;

R^{16a} is:
C_{1-6}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-2}alkyl);
C_{3-6}cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{5-6}cycloalkyl) optionally substituted by one oxo (=O), OH or C_{1-2}alkyl substituent (e.g. optionally substituted at the 3- or 4-position of a C_{5-6}cycloalkyl ring; and/or preferably unsubstituted C_{3-6}cycloalkyl);
C_{3-6}cycloalkyl-CH_2- (e.g. C_{5-6}cycloalkyl-CH_2-);

pyridinyl (e.g. pyridin-2-yl) optionally substituted on a ring carbon atom by one of: a halogen atom, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy;

Ar^{5c};

phenyl optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently being: a halogen atom, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy;

benzyl optionally substituted on its ring by one or two substituents independently being: a halogen atom, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy; or

a 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-membered saturated heterocyclic ring connected at a ring-carbon and containing one or two ring-hetero-atoms independently selected from O, S, and N; wherein any ring-nitrogens which are present are present as NR^{27} where R^{27} is H, C_{1-2}alkyl or -C(O)Me; and wherein the ring is optionally substituted at carbon by one C_{1-2}alkyl or oxo (=O) substituent, provided that any oxo (=O) substituent is substituted at a ring-carbon atom bonded to a ring-nitrogen;

R^{30}, independent of other R^{30}, is a hydrogen atom (H), C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{3-6}cycloalkyl;

Ar^{5b} and Ar^{5c} independently is/are a 5-membered aromatic heterocyclic ring containing one O, S or NR^{15a} in the 5-membered ring, wherein the 5-membered ring can optionally additionally contain one or two N atoms, and wherein the heterocyclic ring is optionally substituted on a ring carbon atom by one of: a halogen atom, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, $-CH_2OH$, $-CH_2-OC_{1-2}$alkyl, OH (including the keto tautomer thereof) or $-CH_2-NR^{28}R^{29}$ wherein R^{28} and R^{29} independently are H or methyl; and

Het^1, is a 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-membered saturated heterocyclic ring connected at a ring-carbon and containing one or two ring-hetero-atoms independently selected from O, S, and N; wherein any ring-nitrogens which are present are present as NR^{31} where R^{31} is H, C_{1-2}alkyl or -C(O)Me; and wherein the ring is optionally substituted at carbon by one C_{1-2}alkyl or oxo (=O) substituent, provided that any oxo (=O) substituent is substituted at a ring-carbon atom bonded to a ring-nitrogen;

provided that:

when R^3 is the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (bb), n^1 is 1, and Y is NR^{10}, then R^{10} is not C_{1-2}alkyl or C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl; and

when R^3 is the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa) and Y is NR^{10}, then R^{10} is not C(O)-C_{1-2}alkyl, C(O)-C_1fluoroalkyl or -C(O)-CH_2O-C_{1-2}alkyl.

In compounds, for example in the compounds of formula (I) (or formula (IA) or formula (IB), see later), an "alkyl" group or moiety may be straight-chain or branched. Alkyl groups, for example C_{1-8}alkyl or C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-2}alkyl, which may be employed include C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkyl or C_{1-2}alkyl such as methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, n-butyl, n-pentyl, or n-hexyl or any branched isomers thereof such as isopropyl, t-butyl, sec-butyl, isobutyl, 3-methylbutan-2-yl, 2-ethylbutan-1-yl, or the like.

A corresponding meaning is intended for "alkoxy", "alkylene", and like terms derived from alkyl. For example, "alkoxy" such as C_{1-6}alkoxy or C_{1-4}alkoxy or C_{1-2}alkoxy includes methoxy, ethoxy, propyloxy, and oxy derivatives of the alkyls listed above. "Alkylsulfonyl" such as C_{1-4}alkylsulfonyl includes methylsulfonyl (methanesulfonyl), ethylsulfonyl, and others derived from the alkyls listed above. "Alkylsulfonyloxy" such as C_{1-4}alkylsulfonyloxy includes methanesulfonyloxy (methylsulfonyloxy), ethanesulfonyloxy, *et al.*

"Cycloalkyl", for example C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, includes cyclopropyl, cyclobutyl, cyclopentyl, cyclohexyl, cycloheptyl, cyclooctyl, and the like. Preferably, a C_{3-8}cycloalkyl group is C_{3-6}cycloalkyl or C_{5-6}cycloalkyl , that is contains a 3-6 membered or 5-6 membered carbocyclic ring.

"Fluoroalkyl" includes alkyl groups with one, two, three, four, five or more fluorine substituents, for example C_{1-4}fluoroalkyl or C_{1-3}fluoroalkyl or C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl such as monofluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl (CF_3CH_2-), 2,2-difluoroethyl (CHF_2CH_2-), 2-fluoroethyl (CH_2FCH_2-), etc. "Fluoroalkoxy" includes C_{1-4}fluoroalkoxy or C_{1-2}fluoroalkoxy such as trifluoromethoxy, pentafluoroethoxy, monofluoromethoxy, difluoromethoxy, etc. "Fluoroalkylsulfonyl" such as C_{1-4}fluoroalkylsulfonyl includes trifluoromethanesulfonyl, pentafluoroethylsulfonyl, etc.

A halogen atom ("halo") present in compounds, for example in the compounds of formula (I), means a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom ("fluoro", "chloro", "bromo" or "iodo"), for example fluoro, chloro or bromo.

When the specification states that atom or moiety A is "bonded" or "attached" to atom or moiety B, it means that atom/moiety A is directly bonded to atom/moiety B usually by means of a covalent bond or a double covalent bond, and excludes A being indirectly attached to B via one or more intermediate atoms/moieties (e.g. excludes A-C-B); unless it is clear from the context that another meaning is intended.

When R^1 is C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}fluoroalkyl, it can be straight-chained or branched. Where R^1 is C_{1-4}alkyl then it can for example be methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl or n-butyl. When R^1 is C_{1-3}fluoroalkyl, then R^1 can for example be C_1fluoroalkyl such as monofluoromethyl, difluoromethyl, trifluoromethyl; or R^1 can be C_2fluoroalkyl such as pentafluoroethyl or more preferably C_1fluoroalkyl-CH_2- such as 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl (CF_3CH_2-), 2,2-difluoroethyl (CHF_2CH_2-), or 2-fluoroethyl (CH_2FCH_2-).

Preferably, R^1 is C_{1-3}alkyl (e.g. methyl, ethyl or n-propyl), C_{1-3}fluoroalkyl or $-CH_2CH_2OH$. R^1 is more preferably C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl, or $-CH_2CH_2OH$. Still more preferably, R^1 is C_{2-3}alkyl (e.g. ethyl or n-propyl), C_2fluoroalkyl (e.g. C_1fluoroalkyl-CH_2- such as CF_3-CH_2-) or $-CH_2CH_2OH$; in particular ethyl, n-propyl or $-CH_2CH_2OH$. Yet more preferably, R^1 is C_2alkyl or C_2fluoroalkyl. R^1 is most preferably ethyl.

Preferably, R^2 is a hydrogen atom (H) or methyl, for example a hydrogen atom (H).

Preferably, in R^3 there is one substituent or no substituent.

In one optional embodiment, R^3 is the optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl or the optionally substituted heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc).

In one optional embodiment, when R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, it is not unsubstituted C_5cycloalkyl, i.e. not unsubstituted cyclopentyl. In this case, suitably, R^3 is optionally substituted C_{6-8}cycloalkyl.

When R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, it is more suitablyoptionally substituted C_{6-7}cycloalkyl, preferably optionally substituted C_6cycloalkyl (i.e. optionally substituted cyclohexyl).

Suitably, when R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, then R^3 is C_{3-8}cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{6-7}cycloalkyl) optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently being oxo (=O); OH; C_1alkoxy; C_1fluoroalkoxy (e.g. trifluoromethoxy or difluoromethoxy); NHR^{21} wherein R^{21} is a hydrogen atom (H) or C_{1-2}alkyl (more preferably R^{21} is H); C_{1-2}alkyl such as methyl; C_1fluoroalkyl such as $-CH_2F$ or $-CHF_2$; $-CH_2OH$; $-CH_2NHR^{22}$ wherein R^{22} is H; $-C(O)OR^{23}$ wherein R^{23} is H or methyl; $-C(O)NHR^{24}$ wherein R^{24} is H or methyl; $-C(O)R^{25}$ wherein R^{25} is methyl; fluoro; hydroxyimino (=N-OH); or (C_{1-4}alkoxy)imino (=N-OR^{26} where R^{26} is C_{1-4}alkyl); and wherein any OH, alkoxy, fluoroalkoxy or NHR^{21} substituent is not substituted at the R^3 ring carbon attached (bonded) to the -NH- group of formula (I) and is not substituted at either R^3 ring carbon bonded to the Y group of the heterocyclic group (aa), (bb) or (cc).

Preferably, when R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, then R^3 is C_{3-8}cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{6-7}cycloalkyl) optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently

being oxo (=O); OH; NHR^{21} wherein R^{21} is a hydrogen atom (H); C_{1-2}alkyl such as methyl; C_1fluoroalkyl such as $-CH_2F$ or $-CHF_2$; $-C(O)OR^{23}$ wherein R^{23} is H or methyl; $-C(O)NHR^{24}$ wherein R^{24} is H or methyl; fluoro; hydroxyimino (=N-OH); or (C_{1-2}alkoxy)imino (=N-OR^{26} where R^{26} is C_{1-2}alkyl).

More preferably, when R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, then R^3 is C_{3-8}cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{6-7}cycloalkyl) optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently being oxo (=O); OH; NHR^{21} wherein R^{21} is a hydrogen atom (H); methyl; $-CH_2F$; $-CHF_2$; $-C(O)OR^{23}$ wherein R^{23} is H; $-C(O)NHR^{24}$ wherein R^{24} is H or methyl (preferably H); fluoro; hydroxyimino (=N-OH); or methoxyimino (=N-OR^{26} where R^{26} is methyl).

Still more preferably, when R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, then R^3 is C_{3-8}cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{6-7}cycloalkyl) optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently being oxo (=O); OH; methyl; $-C(O)NHR^{24}$ wherein R^{24} is H; fluoro; hydroxyimino (=N-OH); or methoxyimino (=N-OR^{26} where R^{26} is methyl).

Yet more preferably, when R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, then R^3 is C_{3-8}cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{6-7}cycloalkyl) optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently being OH; $-C(O)NHR^{24}$ wherein R^{24} is H; oxo (=O) or hydroxyimino (=N-OH).

In one optional embodiment, in R^3, the C_{3-8}cycloalkyl can be unsubstituted.

When R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl or optionally substituted C_{5-7}cycloalkenyl, e.g. optionally substituted C_{5-8}cycloalkyl or C_{5-7}cycloalkyl, such as optionally substituted C_6cycloalkyl (optionally substituted cyclohexyl) or optionally substituted cyclohexenyl, the one or two optional substituents if present suitably can comprise a substituent (for example is or are substituent(s)) at the 3-, 4- and/or 5-position(s), e.g. at the 3- and/or 4- position(s), of the R^3 cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl ring.

(In this connection and generally herein, the 1-position of the R^3 ring, e.g. of the R^3 cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl ring is deemed to be the connection point to the -NH- in formula (I) = the ring atom connecting to the -NH- in formula (I)).

Suitably, for R^3, and in particular when R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl or optionally substituted C_{5-7}cycloalkenyl, R^3 is not substituted (other than optionally by alkyl or fluoroalkyl) at the ring atom connecting to the -NH- in formula (I), and R^3 is not substituted (other than optionally by alkyl, fluoroalkyl or NHR^{21}) at the two ring atoms

either side of (bonded to) the connecting atom. For example, suitably, for R^3, and in particular when R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl or optionally substituted C_{5-7}cycloalkenyl, R^3 is not substituted at the ring atom connecting to the -NH- in formula (I), and R^3 is not substituted at the two ring atoms either side of (bonded to) the connecting atom.

Suitably, for R^3, and in particular when R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl or optionally substituted C_{5-7}cycloalkenyl, the one or two optional R^3 substituents if present can comprise a substituent (for example is or are substituent(s)):
(a) at the 3-position of a R^3 cyclobutyl ring, or
(b) at the 3- and/or 4- position(s) of a R^3 cyclopentyl or cyclopentenyl ring, or
(c) at the 3-, 4- and/or 5- position(s) of a R^3 cyclohexyl or cyclohexenyl ring, or
(d) at the 3-, 4-, 5- and/or 6- position(s) of a R^3 cycloheptyl or cycloheptenyl ring, or
(e) at the 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- and/or 7- position(s) of a R^3 cyclooctyl ring,
and/or
(f) at the 1-, 2- and/or highest-numbered- position(s) of a R^3 cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl ring, for alkyl or fluoroalkyl substituent(s), and/or
(g) at the 2- and/or highest-numbered- position(s) of a R^3 cycloalkyl or cycloalkenyl ring, for NHR^{21} or fluoro substituent(s).

When R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, any OH, alkoxy, fluoroalkoxy, $-CH_2CH_2OH$ or $-CH_2NHR^{22}$ substituent (particularly any OH substituent) is suitably at the 3-, 4- or 5- position, e.g. 3- or 5-position, of the R^3 cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{6-8}cycloalkyl) ring. Optionally, any OH, alkoxy, fluoroalkoxy, $-CH_2CH_2OH$ or $-CH_2NHR^{22}$ substituent (particularly any OH substituent) can be: at the 3-position of a R^3 cyclobutyl ring; or at the 3- or 4- position of a R^3 C_5cycloalkyl (cyclopentyl) ring; or at the 3-, 4- or 5- position of a R^3 C_6cycloalkyl (cyclohexyl) ring (e.g. at the 3- or 5-position of a R^3 cyclohexyl ring especially for any OH substituent); or at the 3-, 4-, 5- or 6- position of a R^3 cycloheptyl ring, or at the 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7- position of a R^3 cyclooctyl ring. Suitably, any OH, alkoxy, fluoroalkoxy, $-CH_2CH_2OH$ or $-CH_2NHR^{22}$ substituent (particularly any OH substituent) is at the 3- or 4- position of a R^3 C_5cycloalkyl (cyclopentyl) ring; or more suitably at the 3-, 4- or 5- position, still more suitably at the 3- or 5-position, of a R^3 C_6cycloalkyl (cyclohexyl) ring.

Suitably, when R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl or optionally substituted C_{5-7}cycloalkenyl, any $-C(O)OR^{23}$, $-C(O)NHR^{24}$, $-C(O)R^{25}$, $-CH_2OH$ or fluoro substituent is: at the 3-position of a R^3 cyclobutyl ring; or at the 3- or 4- position of a R^3 C_5cycloalkyl (cyclopentyl) or cyclopentenyl ring; or at the 3-, 4- or 5- position,

preferably at the 4-position, of a R^3 C_6cycloalkyl (cyclohexyl) or cyclohexenyl ring; or at the 3-, 4-, 5- or 6- position of a R^3 cycloheptyl or cycloheptenyl ring, or at the 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7- position of a R^3 cyclooctyl ring. Any $-C(O)OR^{23}$, $-C(O)NHR^{24}$, $-C(O)R^{25}$, $-CH_2OH$ or fluoro substituent, e.g. any $-C(O)NHR^{24}$ or fluoro substituent, is suitably at the 3-, 4- or 5- position, more suitably at the 4-position, of a R^3 C_6cycloalkyl (cyclohexyl) or cyclohexenyl ring. It is particularly preferable for any $-C(O)NHR^{24}$ substituent to be at the 4-position of a R^3 cyclohexyl ring.

When R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, any NHR^{21} substituent is at any position other than the 1-position (the ring atom connecting to the -NH- in formula (I)), e.g. at the 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8- position. Suitably, any NHR^{21} substituent is at the 2-, 3-, 5- or 6- position, or more suitably at the 3- or 5- position, of a R^3 cyclohexyl ring.

When R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl or optionally substituted C_{5-7}cycloalkenyl, any alkyl or fluoroalkyl substituent can for example be at the 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8- position, for example at the 1-, 2-, 3-, 5- or 6- position, e.g. the 1-position, of the R^3 ring. Preferably, any alkyl or fluoroalkyl substituent is at the 1-, 2-, 3-, 5- or 6- position, or more preferably at the 1-, 3- or 5- position, of a R^3 cyclohexyl or cyclohexenyl ring.

When R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, any oxo (=O), hydroxyimino (=N-OH); or (C_{1-4}alkoxy)imino ($=N-OR^{26}$) substituent is suitably at the 3-, 4- or 5- position, e.g. at the 4-position, of the R^3 cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{6-8}cycloalkyl e.g. cyclohexyl) ring. Preferably any such substituent is at the 4-position of a R^3 cyclohexyl ring.

When R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{6-7}cycloalkyl), R^3 is preferably cyclohexyl (i.e. unsubstituted); or cycloheptyl (i.e. unsubstituted); or cyclohexyl substituted by one substituent being oxo (=O), OH, NHR^{21}, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl, $-CH_2OH$, $-C(O)OR^{23}$, $-C(O)NHR^{24}$, $-C(O)R^{25}$, fluoro, hydroxyimino (=N-OH), or (C_{1-4}alkoxy)imino ($=N-OR^{26}$); or cyclohexyl substituted by two fluoro substituents. More preferably, R^3 is cyclohexyl (i.e. unsubstituted); or cycloheptyl (i.e. unsubstituted); or cyclohexyl substituted by one substituent being oxo (=O), OH, NHR^{21}, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl, $-C(O)OR^{23}$, $-C(O)NHR^{24}$, fluoro, hydroxyimino (=N-OH), or (C_{1-2}alkoxy)imino ($=N-OR^{26}$ wherein R^{26} is C_{1-2}alkyl); or cyclohexyl substituted by two fluoro substituents. Still more preferably R^3 is cyclohexyl (i.e. unsubstituted) or cyclohexyl substituted by one oxo (=O), hydroxyimino (=N-OH), $-C(O)NH_2$, methyl or OH substituent. The optional substituent can for example be at the 3- or 4- position, of the R^3 cyclohexyl ring. Preferably, any OH substituent is preferably at the 3-position of

a R^3 cyclohexyl ring, and/or any oxo (=O), hydroxyimino (=N-OH), (C_{1-4}alkoxy)imino (=N-OR^{26}) or -C(O)NH_2 substituent is preferably at the 4-position of a R^3 cyclohexyl ring, and/or any alkyl or fluoroalkyl substituent is preferably at the 1-, 3- or 5- position of a R^3 cyclohexyl ring.

When R^3 is optionally substituted C_{6-7}cycloalkyl, R^3 can for example be 4-hydroxy-cyclohexyl (i.e. 4-hydroxycyclohexan-1-yl), 4-methylcyclohexyl, 3-fluorocyclohexyl, 2-aminocyclohexyl, 3-(HO(O)C)cyclohexyl or 3-oxocyclohexyl, but R^3 is more preferably cyclohexyl (i.e. unsubstituted), cycloheptyl (i.e. unsubstituted), 3-hydroxy-cyclohexyl (i.e. 3-hydroxycyclohexan-1-yl) (e.g. in a *cis* configuration), 4-oxo-cyclohexyl (i.e. 4-oxocyclohexan-1-yl), 4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl (i.e. 4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexan-1-yl), 4-(C_{1-2}alkoxyimino)cyclohexyl, 4-(aminocarbonyl)cyclohexyl (i.e. 4-(aminocarbonyl)cyclohexan-1-yl) (e.g. in a *cis* configuration), 1-methylcyclohexyl, 3-methylcyclohexyl, 4,4-(difluoro)cyclohexyl, or 3-aminocyclohexyl.

When R^3 is optionally substituted C_{6-7}cycloalkyl, R^3 is most preferably cyclohexyl (i.e. unsubstituted), 3-hydroxy-cyclohexyl (i.e. 3-hydroxycyclohexan-1-yl) (e.g. in a *cis* configuration), 4-oxo-cyclohexyl (i.e. 4-oxocyclohexan-1-yl), 4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl (i.e. 4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexan-1-yl), or 4-(aminocarbonyl)cyclohexyl (i.e. 4-(aminocarbonyl)cyclohexan-1-yl) (e.g. in a *cis* configuration).

When R^3 is optionally substituted C_5cycloalkyl (optionally substituted cyclopentyl), R^3 can for example be cyclopentyl (i.e. unsubstituted) or more suitably 3-hydroxy-cyclopentyl.

When R^3 is optionally substituted mono-unsaturated-C_{5-7}cycloalkenyl, preferably it is optionally substituted mono-unsaturated-C_{5-6}cycloalkenyl, more preferably optionally substituted mono-unsaturated-C_6cycloalkenyl (i.e. optionally substituted mono-unsaturated-cyclohexenyl = optionally substituted cyclohexenyl). For example, the R^3 cyclohexenyl can be optionally substituted cyclohex-3-en-1-yl.

When R^3 is optionally substituted mono-unsaturated-C_{5-7}cycloalkenyl, in one optional embodiment the R^3 cycloalkenyl is optionally substituted with one or two substituents independently being fluoro or methyl. Preferably, in this embodiment, if there are two substituents then they are not both methyl.

In another optional embodiment, the R^3 cycloalkenyl (e.g. cyclohexenyl) is optionally substituted with one substituent being fluoro or C_{1-2}alkyl (preferably fluoro or methyl); more preferably the R^3 cycloalkenyl (e.g. cyclohexenyl) is substituted with one fluoro

substituent or is unsubstituted. For example, the R^3 optionally substituted cycloalkenyl can be cyclohex-3-en-1-yl (i.e. unsubstituted) or 4-fluoro-cyclohex-3-en-1-yl.

For R^3 cycloalkenyl, the optional substituent(s) can for example be at the 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5- or 6- position(s) of the cycloalkenyl ring.

When R^3 is the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc), then Y is preferably O or NR^{10}, most preferably O or N-C(O)-NH_2.

Suitably, R^{10} is a hydrogen atom (H), methyl, ethyl, $C(O)NH_2$, C(O)-C_{1-2}alkyl or C(O)-C_1fluoroalkyl. Preferably, R^{10} is not C_{1-2}alkyl or C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl. Suitably, R^{10} is not $CH_2C(O)NH_2$.

More preferably, R^{10} is a hydrogen atom (H), $C(O)NH_2$, C(O)-C_{1-2}alkyl (e.g. C(O)methyl) or C(O)-C_1fluoroalkyl (e.g. C(O)-CF_3). Still more preferably R^{10} is H, $C(O)NH_2$ or C(O)methyl; for example $C(O)NH_2$.

When R^3 is the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc), then it is preferable that R^3 is the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa) or (bb), more preferably of sub-formula (bb).

In sub-formula (bb), n^1 is preferably 1. In sub-formula (cc), n^2 is preferably 1. That is, six-membered rings are preferred in the R^3 heterocyclic group.

Suitably, in R^3, the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc) is unsubstituted on a ring carbon. (In this connection, where Y is NR^{10}, R^{10} is not a substituent on a ring carbon).

In the R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc), the one or two optional substituents preferably comprise (e.g. is or independently are) OH; oxo (=O); C_{1-2}alkyl (e.g. methyl) or C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl (e.g. C_1fluoroalkyl such as -CH_2F or -CHF_2). More preferably, in the R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc), the one or two optional substituents comprise (e.g. is or independently are) C_{1-2}alkyl (e.g. methyl) or oxo; most preferably the one or two optional substituents comprise (e.g. is or are) oxo (=O).

In the R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc), any oxo (=O) substituent is preferably on a carbon atom bonded (adjacent) to Y, e.g. is on a carbon atom bonded (adjacent) to Y only when Y is O or NR^{10}.

In the R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc), any oxo (=O) substituent can suitably be at the 2-, 3-, 4-, 5- or 6- position of the R^3 heterocyclic ring. For example any oxo (=O) substituent(s) can be: at the 2-, 4- or 5- position(s) (e.g. 2-position or 4-position, or two oxo substituents at 2- and 4- positions) of a R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), at the 2-, 4-, 5- or 6- position(s) (e.g. 4-position) of a six-membered R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (cc) wherein n^2 is 1, at the 2-, 3-, 5-, 6- or 7-position(s) (e.g. 5-position) of a seven-membered R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (bb) wherein n^1 is 2, or at the 2-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7- position(s) (e.g. 2-position) of a seven-membered R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (cc) wherein n^2 is 2.

(In this connection and generally herein, the 1-position of the R^3 heterocyclic ring is deemed to be the connection point to the -NH- in formula (I) = the ring atom connecting to the -NH- in formula (I), and the remaining positions of the ring are then numbered so that the ring heteroatom takes the lowest possible number).

In the R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc), any alkyl or fluoroalkyl substituent can for example be at the 1-, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5- or 6- position, e.g. the 1-position, of the R^3 heterocyclic ring, for example at the 1-, 3- or 5- position of a six-membered R^3 heterocyclic ring.

In the R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc), any OH substituent can be: at the 5-position of a six-membered R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (cc) wherein n^2 is 1; at the 5- or 6- position of a seven-membered R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (cc) wherein n^2 is 2; or at the 6- position of a seven-membered R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (bb) wherein n^1 is 2.

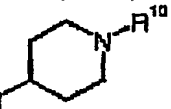
Any other substituents of the R^3 heterocyclic group can optionally be positioned on the R^3 heterocyclic ring at numerical positions as described herein for when R^3 is optionally substituted C_{5-7}cycloalkyl, all necessary changes to the wording being made.

In the R^3 heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc), preferably, only C_{1-2}alkyl, C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl, fluoro or oxo (=O) substitution or no substitution is allowed independently at each of the 2- and highest-numbered- positions of the R^3 heterocyclic ring (e.g. at each of the 2- and 6- positions of a six-membered R^3 heterocyclic ring), and/or only C_{1-2}alkyl, C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl or fluoro substitution or no substitution is allowed at the 1-position of the R^3 heterocyclic ring.

When R^3 is the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa) and Y is NR^{10}, then R^{10} is not C(O)-C_{1-2}alkyl, C(O)-C_1fluoroalkyl or -C(O)-CH_2O-C_{1-2}alkyl. According to one optional embodiment, when R^3 is the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa) and Y is

NR^{10} then R^{10} is optionally not C(O)NHMe, C(O)-C_{1-2}alkyl, C(O)-C_1fluoroalkyl or -C(O)-CH_2O-C_{1-2}alkyl.

In one preferable embodiment, Y is O, S, SO_2 or NH when R^3 is the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa).

When R^3 is the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (bb), n^1 is 1, and Y is NR^{10} (e.g. when NHR^3 is ), then R^{10} is not C_{1-2}alkyl or C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl. More preferably, when R^3 is the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (bb) wherein n^1 is 1 or 2 and Y is NR^{10}, then R^{10} is preferably not C_{1-2}alkyl or C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl.

In one embodiment, when R^3 is the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (bb), then preferably Y is O, S, SO_2 or NR^{10} wherein R^{10} is H, C(O)NH_2, C(O)-C_{1-2}alkyl (e.g. C(O)methyl) or C(O)-C_1fluoroalkyl (e.g. C(O)-CF_3), or more preferably R^{10} is H, C(O)NH_2 or C(O)Me, for example C(O)NH_2 or C(O)Me, most preferably C(O)NH_2.

In one optional embodiment, when R^3 is the heterocyclic group of sub-formula (cc), then optionally Y is O, S, SO_2 or NR^{10} wherein R^{10} is H, C(O)NH_2, C(O)-C_{1-2}alkyl (e.g. C(O)methyl) or C(O)-C_1fluoroalkyl (e.g. C(O)-CF_3). In this case R^{10} can for example be H, C(O)NH_2 or C(O)Me, for example H.

Optionally, for sub-formula (bb) and/or for sub-formula (cc), Y is O or NR^{10}.

When R^3 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{6-7}cycloalkyl) or optionally substituted mono-unsaturated-C_{5-7}cycloalkenyl or an optionally substituted heterocyclic group of sub-formula (aa), (bb) or (cc), then a substituent can be *in* the *cis* or *trans* configuration with respect to the -NH- group of formula (I) to which R^3 is attached (bonded); this includes mixtures of configurations wherein the stated configuration is the major component. For example, an OH or -C(O)NHR^{24} substituent on C_{6-7}cycloalkyl can for example be in the *cis* configuration and/or a NHR^{21} substituent on C_{6-7}cycloalkyl can for example be in the *cis* or *trans* configuration, with respect to the -NH- group of formula (I) to which R^3 is attached (bonded), including mixtures of configurations wherein the stated configuration is the major component.

When R^3 is a bicyclic group of sub-formula (ee), then preferably Y^1, Y^2 and Y^3 are all CH_2.

Preferably, NHR^3 is of sub-formula (a), (a1), (b), (c), (c 1), (c 2), (c 3), (c 4), (c 5), (c 6), (c 7), (d), (e), (f), (g), (g1), (g2), (g3), (g4), (h), (i), (j), (k), (k1), (k2), (L), (m), (m1), (m2), (m3), (m5), (n), (o), (o1), (o2), (o3), (p), (p1), (p2), (p3), (p4), (p5), (p6), (p7), (p8), (p9), (p10), (p11) or (q):

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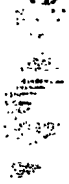

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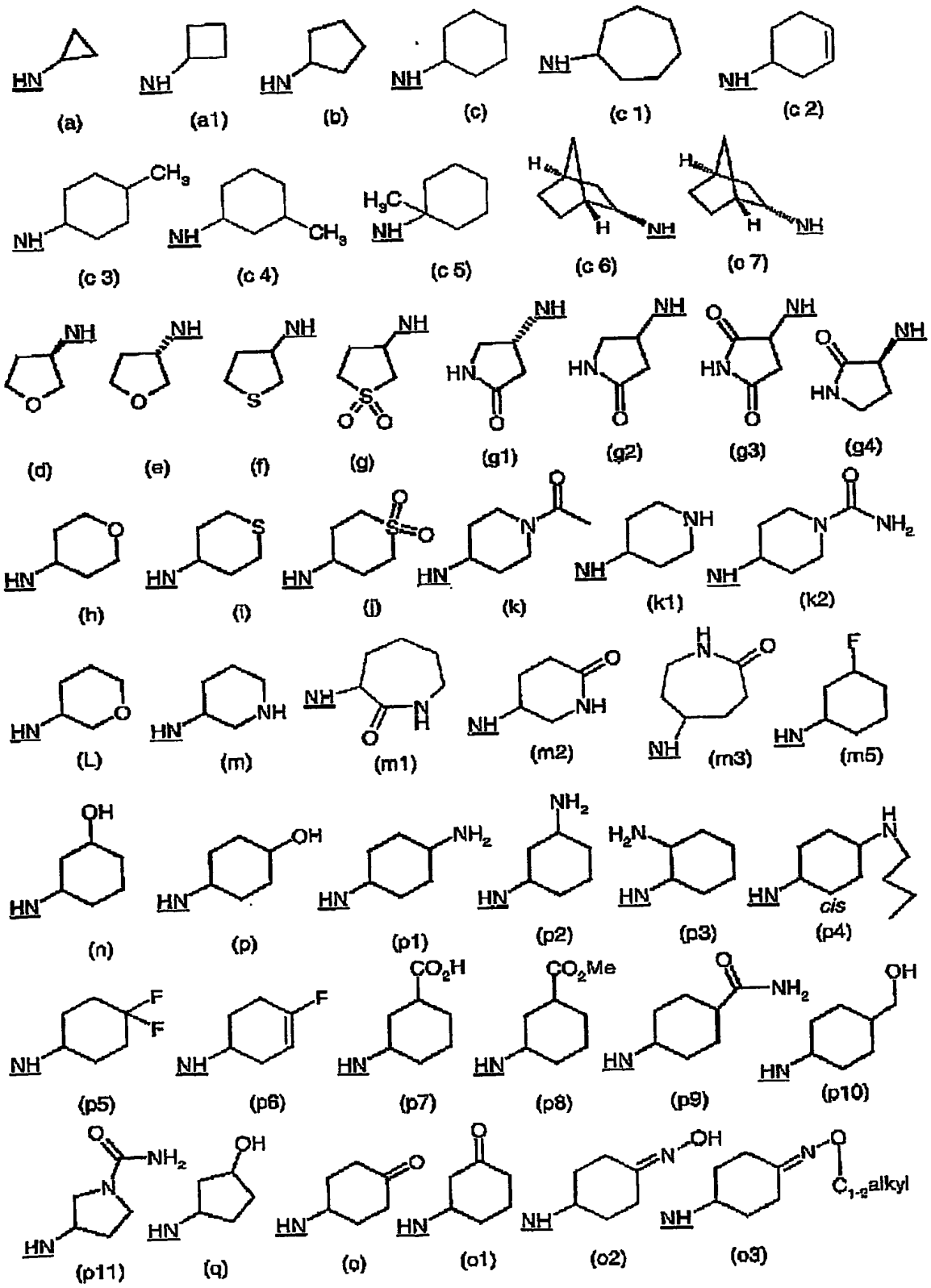


In the sub-formulae (a) to (q) etc above, the -NH- connection point of the NHR^3 group to the 4-position of the pyrazolopyridine of formula (I) is underlined.

Preferably, NHR^3 is of sub-formula (c), (c1), (c 2), (c 3), (c 4), (c 5), (c 6), (c 7), (d), (e), (f), (g1), (g4), (h), (i), (j), (k), (k1), (k2), (L), (m), (m1), (m2), (m3), (m5), (n), (o), (o1), (o2), (o3), (p), (p2), (p5), (p6), (p7), (p9), (p10), (p11) or (q). More preferably, NHR^3 is of sub-formula (c), (c1), (c 4), (c 5), (h), (i), (j), (k), (k2), (m1), (m2), (n), (o), (o2), (o3), (p2), (p5), (p6), (p9), (p11) or (q). NHR^3 can for example be of sub-formula (c), (p11), (h), (k), (k2), (n), (o), (o2) or (p9); or still more preferably (c), (p11), (h), (k2), (n), (o), (o2) or (p9). Most preferably, R^3 is tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-yl or 1-(aminocarbonyl)-4-piperidinyl; that is NHR^3 is most preferably of sub-formula (h) or (k2), as shown above.

When NHR^3 is of sub-formula (n), then preferably it is in the *cis* configuration, i.e. preferably it is a *cis*-(3-hydroxycyclohexan-1-yl)amino group, e.g. in any enantiomeric form or mixture of forms such as a racemic mixture.

When NHR^3 is of sub-formula (p9), then preferably it is in the *cis* configuration, i.e. preferably it is a *cis*-[4-(aminocarbonyl)cyclohexan-1-yl]amino group.

Where R^4 is C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl, then it can be C_1fluoroalkyl such as monofluoromethyl, difluoromethyl or trifluoromethyl.

R^{4a} can suitably be a hydrogen atom (H) or methyl (Me), more suitably H.

R^4 can for example be a hydrogen atom (H); methyl, ethyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, $-CH_2OH$, $-CH(Me)OH$, $-CH_2CH_2OH$, or $-CH_2OMe$; or preferably a hydrogen atom (H), methyl, ethyl, CF_3, $-CH_2OH$, or $-CH_2OMe$. More preferably, R^4 is methyl, ethyl, CF_3, $-CH_2OH$, or $-CH_2OMe$; for example methyl, ethyl, CF_3 or $-CH_2OH$. Still more preferably, R^4 is methyl or ethyl. Most preferably, R^4 is ethyl.

Suitably, R^4 is not a hydrogen atom (H), and more suitably R^5 is a hydrogen atom (H).

When R^5 is C_{1-4}alkyl substituted by one substituent R^{11} or R^5 is C_{2-4}alkyl (e.g. ethyl or n-propyl) substituted on different carbon atoms by two OH substituents, then suitably R^5 is C_{1-4}alkyl substituted by one substituent R^{11}.

When R^5 is C_{1-4}alkyl substituted by one substituent R^{11}, it is suitable that R^5 is C_{1-3}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl) substituted by one substituent R^{11}. Suitably, R^5 is $-(CH_2)_{n^5}-R^{11}$ wherein n^5 is 1, 2, 3 or 4 or R^5 is -CH(Me)-R^{11}. Preferably n^5 is 1, 2 or 3, more preferably 1 or 2, still more preferably 1.

Suitably, R^{11} is: hydroxy (OH); C_{1-4}alkoxy or C_{1-2}alkoxy (such as t-butyloxy, ethoxy or preferably methoxy); C_1fluoroalkoxy; $-NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-NR^{15}-C(O)R^{16}$; or $-NR^{15}-S(O)_2R^{16}$. More suitably, R^{11} is hydroxy (OH), C_{1-4}alkoxy (e.g. C_{1-2}alkoxy), or $-NR^{12}R^{13}$; still more suitably OH, ethoxy, methoxy, NH_2, NHMe, NHEt, NMe_2, pyrrolidin-1-yl or piperidin-1-yl; preferably OH, methoxy, NH_2, NHMe or NMe_2.

Where R^5 is C_{1-8}alkyl, then suitably it is C_{1-6}alkyl or C_{1-5}alkyl or C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-3}alkyl. Where R^5 is C_{1-3}fluoroalkyl then suitably it is C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl or C_1fluoroalkyl such as monofluoromethyl, difluoromethyl or trifluoromethyl. Where R^5 is C_{3-8}cycloalkyl optionally substituted by a C_{1-2}alkyl group, then optionally the C_{3-8}cycloalkyl is not substituted at the connecting ring-carbon. Where R^5 is optionally substituted C_{3-8}cycloalkyl, then suitably it is C_{3-8}cycloalkyl (i.e. unsubstituted) and/or optionally substituted C_{3-6}cycloalkyl such as optionally substituted cyclopropyl or optionally substituted cyclohexyl.

When R^5 is optionally substituted $-(CH_2)_{n^4}-C_{3-8}$cycloalkyl, then n^4 is preferably 1, and/or suitably R^5 is optionally substituted $-(CH_2)_{n^4}-C_{3-6}$cycloalkyl such as optionally substituted $-(CH_2)_{n^4}$-cyclopropyl or optionally substituted $-(CH_2)_{n^4}-C_6$cycloalkyl. When R^5 is optionally substituted $-(CH_2)_{n^4}-C_{3-8}$cycloalkyl, preferably it is not substituted. For example, R^5 can be (cyclohexyl)methyl-, that is $-CH_2$-cyclohexyl, or $-CH_2$-cyclopropyl.

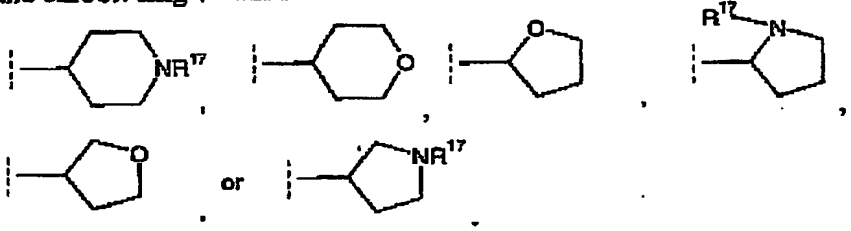
When R^{19} is C_{1-2}alkyl, then optionally it can be methyl.

When R^5 is $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-C(O)R^{16}$; $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-C(O)NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-CHR^{19}-C(O)NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-C(O)OR^{16}$; $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-C(O)OH$; $-CHR^{19}-C(O)OR^{16}$; $-CHR^{19}-C(O)OH$; $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-S(O)_2-NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-S(O)_2R^{16}$; or $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-CN$; then R^5 can suitably be $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-C(O)NR^{12}R^{13}$; $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-C(O)OR^{16}$; $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-C(O)OH$; or $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-CN$; more suitably $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-C(O)OR^{16}$ or $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-CN$; or preferably $-(CH_2)_{n^{11}}-C(O)OR^{16}$.

Preferably, n^{11} is 0, 1 or 2; more preferably n^{11} is 0 or 1, for example 0.

When R^5 is $-(CH_2)_n{}^{13}$-Het, n^{13} can for example be 0 or 1.

Suitably, Het is a 5- or 6-membered saturated or unsaturated heterocyclic ring, and/or preferably Het is a 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-membered saturated heterocyclic ring.Suitably, the heterocyclic ring Het contains one ring-hetero-atom selected from O, S and N. Suitably, the carbon ring-atoms in Het are not substituted. Het can for example be:



When R^5 is phenyl (Ph), $-CH_2$-Ph, -CHMe-Ph, -CHEt-Ph, CMe_2Ph, or $-CH_2CH_2$-Ph, wherein the phenyl ring Ph is optionally substituted, then suitably Ph is optionally substituted with one of the substituents defined herein. Preferably, R^5 is phenyl (Ph) or $-CH_2$-Ph wherein the phenyl ring Ph is optionally substituted with one or two substituents as defined herein.

When R^5 is phenyl (Ph), $-CH_2$-Ph, -CHMe-Ph, -CHEt-Ph, CMe_2Ph, or $-CH_2CH_2$-Ph, wherein the phenyl ring Ph is optionally substituted with one or two substituents, then preferably the phenyl ring Ph is optionally substituted with one or two (e.g. one) substituents independently being: fluoro; chloro; C_{1-2}alkyl (e.g. methyl); C_1fluoroalkyl (e.g. trifluoromethyl); C_{1-2}alkoxy (e.g. methoxy); or C_1fluoroalkoxy (e.g. trifluoromethoxy or difluoromethoxy). Ph can be unsubstituted.

When R^4 and R^5 taken together are $-(CH_2)_p{}^1-$ or $-(CH_2)_p{}^3$-X^5-$(CH_2)_p{}^4$-, in which X^5 is O or NR^{17a}; then preferably R^4 and R^5 taken together are $-(CH_2)_p{}^1-$. In one embodiment of the invention, R^4 and R^5 are not taken together to be either $-(CH_2)_p{}^1-$ or $-(CH_2)_p{}^3$-X^5-$(CH_2)_p{}^4$-.

When R^4 and R^5 taken together are $-(CH_2)_p{}^1-$, then p^1 can for example be 2, 4, 5 or 6. p^1 is preferably 2, 4 or 5, more preferably 2 or 4.

When R^4 and R^5 taken together are $-(CH_2)_p{}^3$-X^5-$(CH_2)_p{}^4$-, in which X^5 is O or NR^{17a}; then suitably: p^3 is 2, and/or p^4 is 2, and/or one of p^3 and p^4 is 1 and the other of p^3 and p^4 is 2, and/or p^3 and p^4 are both 1. Suitably, X^5 is O. $-(CH_2)_p{}^3$-X^5-$(CH_2)_p{}^4$- can for example be $-(CH_2)_2$-O-$(CH_2)_2$-.

In one embodiment of the invention, R^4 and R^5 are not taken together as $-(CH_2)_p{}^1-$ or $-(CH_2)_p{}^3-X^5-(CH_2)_p{}^4-$.

It is preferable that Ar has the sub-formula (x).

Preferably, in sub-formula (x), two or more (more preferably three or more) of A, B, D, E and F are independently C-H (carbon-hydrogen), C-F (carbon-fluorine) or nitrogen (N).

Preferably, in sub-formula (x), three or more of A, B, D, E and F are independently C-H (carbon-hydrogen), C-F (carbon-fluorine), nitrogen (N), or nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-).

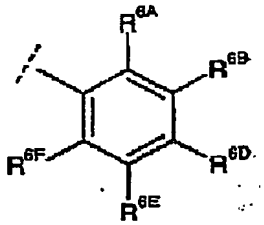
Preferably, in sub-formula (x), two or more (e.g. three or more) of A, B, D, E and F are independently C-H (carbon-hydrogen), C-F (carbon-fluorine), or nitrogen (N); and one or more (e.g. two or more) others of A, B, D, E and F are independently C-H (carbon-hydrogen), C-F (carbon-fluorine), C-Cl (carbon-chlorine), C-Me, C-OMe, or nitrogen (N). More preferably, in sub-formula (x), two or more (e.g. three or more) of A, B, D, E and F are C-H (carbon-hydrogen); and one or more (e.g. two or more) others of A, B, D, E and F are independently C-H (carbon-hydrogen), C-F (carbon-fluorine), C-Cl (carbon-chlorine), C-Me, C-OMe, or nitrogen (N).

Preferably, in sub-formula (x), two or more (e.g. three or more, e.g. four or more) of A, B, D, E and F are C-H.

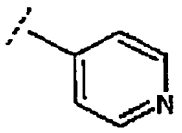
Preferably, in sub-formula (x), no more than one (more preferably none) of A, B, D, E and F are independently nitrogen or nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-).

Preferably, in sub-formula (x), none of A, B, D, E and F are nitrogen-oxide (N^+-O^-).

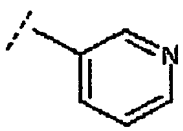
Preferably, Ar has the sub-formula (x) which is sub-formula (x1), (x2), (x3), (x4), (x5), (x6), (x7), (x8), (x9), (x10), (x11), (x12), (x13), (x14), (x15) or (x16):



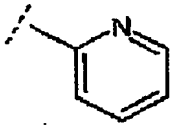
(x1)



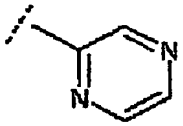
(x2)



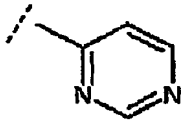
(x3)



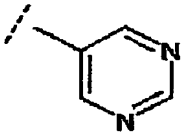
(x4)



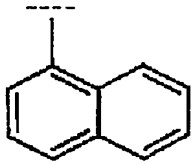
(x5)



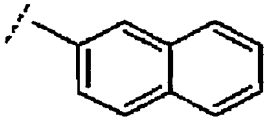
(x6)



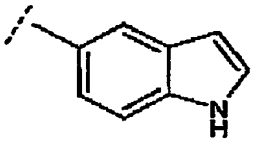
(x7)



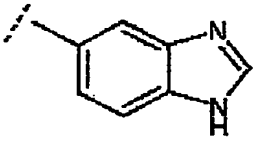
(x8)



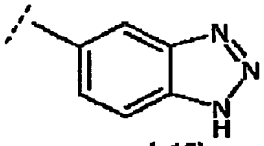
(x9)



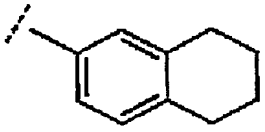
(x10)



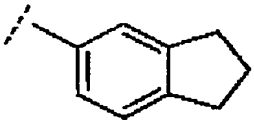
(x11)



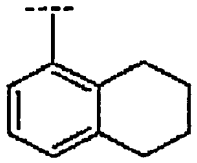
(x12)



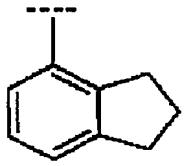
(x13)



(x14)



(x15)



(x16)

More preferably, Ar has the sub-formula (x) which is sub-formula (x1), (x2), (x3), (x8), (x13), or (x14). Still more preferably, Ar has the sub-formula (x) which is sub-formula (x1), (x8), (x13), or (x14). Most preferably, Ar has the sub-formula (x) which is sub-formula (x1).

In sub-formula (x), preferably, R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and/or R^{6F}, independently of each other, is or are: a hydrogen atom (H), a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, C_4alkyl, trifluoromethyl, $-CH_2OH$, methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, isopropoxy, C_1fluoroalkoxy (e.g. trifluoromethoxy or difluoromethoxy), cyclohexyloxy; cyclopentyloxy; nitro ($-NO_2$), OH, C_{1-3}alkylS(O)$_2$- (such as MeS(O)$_2$-), C_{1-3}alkylS(O)$_2$-NH- such as Me-S(O)$_2$-NH-, Me_2N-S(O)$_2$-, H_2N-S(O)$_2$-, $-CONH_2$, -CONHMe, -C(O)OH, cyano (-CN), NMe_2, or C_{1-2}alkyl-S(O)$_2$-CH_2- such as Me-S(O)$_2$-CH_2-.

More preferably, R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and/or R^{6F}, independently of each other, is or are: a hydrogen atom (H), a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, isobutyl, trifluoromethyl, $-CH_2OH$, methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, isopropoxy, C_1fluoroalkoxy (e.g. trifluoromethoxy or difluoromethoxy), nitro ($-NO_2$), OH, C_{1-3}alkylS(O)$_2$- such as MeS(O)$_2$-, C_{1-2}alkylS(O)$_2$-NH- such as Me-S(O)$_2$-NH-, $-CONH_2$, cyano (-CN), or C_{1-2}alkylS(O)$_2$-CH_2- such as Me-S(O)$_2$-CH_2-.

Still more preferably, R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and/or R^{6F}, independently of each other, is or are: a hydrogen atom (H), a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, isopropyl, trifluoromethyl, $-CH_2OH$, methoxy, ethoxy, n-propoxy, difluoromethoxy, OH or MeS(O)$_2$-.

When two adjacent groups selected from R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and R^{6F} are taken together, then, preferably, when taken together they are: $-CH=CH-CH=CH_2-$, $-(CH_2)_n{}^{14a}-$ where n^{14a} is 3, 4 or 5 (e.g. 3 or 4), $-O-(CMe_2)-O-$, $-O-(CH_2)_n{}^{14b}-O-$ where n^{14b} is 1 or 2; $-CH=CH-NR^{15b}-$; $-N=CH-NR^{15b}-$; $-N=N-NR^{15b}$ wherein R^{15b} is H or C_{1-2}alkyl (preferably R^{15b} is H). More preferably, in this embodiment, two adjacent groups selected from R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and R^{6F} are taken together and are: $-CH=CH-CH=CH_2-$ or $-(CH_2)_n{}^{14a}-$ where n^{14a} is 3, 4 or 5 (e.g. 3 or 4).

In sub-formula (x), e.g. in sub-formula (x1), suitably, one, two or three of R^{6B}, R^{6D} and R^{6E} are other than a hydrogen atom (H).

In sub-formula (x), e.g. in sub-formula (x1), preferably, one or both of R^{6A} and R^{6F} are independently a hydrogen atom (H), a fluorine atom (F), or methyl. For example, one or both of R^{6A} and R^{6F} can be a hydrogen atom (H).

In sub-formula (x), e.g. in sub-formula (x1), suitably the ring or ring system is unsubstituted, monosubstituted, disubstituted or trisubstituted; or preferably the ring or ring system is unsubstituted, monosubstituted or disubstituted; more preferably monosubstituted or disubstituted. In sub-formula (x), e.g. in sub-formula (x1), for monosubstitution of the ring or ring system, then the one substituent selected from R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and R^{6F} is suitably present at the 3- or 4-position with respect to the $-(CR^4R^5)-$ side-chain (i.e. D is CR^{6D} where R^{6D} is other than H), or is a 2-methyl, 2-ethyl, 2-fluoro or 2-chloro substituent. In sub-formula (x), e.g. in sub-formula (x1), for disubstitution of the ring or ring system, then 3,4-disubstitution, 2,4-disubstitution, 2,3-disubstitution or 3,5-disubstitution is suitable.

In one preferable embodiment, Ar has the sub-formula (x1) and is: phenyl, monoalkyl-phenyl-, mono(fluoroalkyl)-phenyl-, monohalo-phenyl-, monoalkoxy-phenyl-, mono(fluoroalkoxy)-phenyl-, mono(N,N-dimethylamino)-phenyl-,

mono(methyl-SO_2-NH-)-phenyl-, mono(methyl-SO_2-)-phenyl-, dialkyl-phenyl-, monoalkyl-monohalo-phenyl-, mono(fluoroalkyl)-monohalo-phenyl-, dihalo-phenyl-, dihalo-monoalkyl-phenyl-, dihalo-mono(hydroxymethyl)-phenyl- (e.g. 2,3-dichloro-6-(hydroxymethyl)-phenyl-), or dialkoxy-phenyl- such as 3,4-dimethoxy-phenyl-. The substituents can preferably be further defined, as defined in preferable embodiments herein.

In one preferable embodiment, Ar is of sub-formula (x1) and is: monoalkyl-phenyl-, mono(fluoroalkyl)-phenyl-, monohalo-phenyl-, monoalkoxy-phenyl-, mono(fluoroalkoxy)-phenyl-, dialkyl-phenyl-, monoalkyl-monohalo-phenyl-, dihalo-phenyl- or dihalo-monoalkyl-phenyl-.

More preferably, in this embodiment, Ar is:
- monoC_{1-4}alkyl-phenyl- or monoC_{1-3}alkyl-phenyl- such as 4-C_{1-4}alkyl-phenyl- (e.g. 4-C_{1-3}alkyl-phenyl-) or 2-C_{1-2}alkyl-phenyl-;
- monoC_1fluoroalkyl-phenyl- such as 4-C_1fluoroalkyl-phenyl-;
- monoC_{1-3}alkoxy-phenyl- such as 4-C_{1-3}alkoxy-phenyl- or 3-C_{1-3}alkoxy-phenyl-;
- mono(C_1fluoroalkoxy)-phenyl- such as 4-C_1fluoroalkoxy-phenyl-;
- diC_{1-3}alkyl-phenyl- or diC_{1-2}alkyl-phenyl- or dimethyl-phenyl- such as 3,4-dimethyl-phenyl-, 2,4-dimethyl-phenyl-, 3,5-dimethyl-phenyl-, 2,3-dimethyl-phenyl- or 2,5-dimethyl-phenyl-; for example 3,4-dimethyl-phenyl-, 2,4-dimethyl-phenyl-, 2,3-dimethyl-phenyl- or 3,5-dimethyl-phenyl-;
- monoC_{1-3}alkyl-monohalo-phenyl-, such as monoC_{1-2}alkyl-monohalo-phenyl- and/or monoC_{1-3}alkyl-monochloro-phenyl- or monoC_{1-3}alkyl-monofluoro-phenyl-, for example 4-methyl-3-chloro-phenyl-, 3-methyl-4-chloro-phenyl-, or 2-methyl-4-chloro-phenyl-;
- dihalo-phenyl- such as 2-chloro-4-fluorophenyl- or 2,4-difluoro-phenyl- or 4-bromo-2-fluorophenyl- or preferably 4-chloro-2-fluorophenyl-; for example dichloro-phenyl- such as 3,4-dichloro-phenyl- or 2,4-dichloro-phenyl- or 2,6-dichloro-phenyl- or preferably 2,3-dichloro-phenyl-; or
- dihalo-monoC_{1-2}alkyl-phenyl- e.g. 2,4-dichloro-6-methyl-phenyl-.

In an alternative embodiment, Ar has the sub-formula (z).

Preferably, in sub-formula (z), three or more (for example all) of J, L, M and Q are independently C-H, C-F, C-C_{1-2}alkyl (e.g. C-Me), C-[connection point to formula (I)], or nitrogen (N).

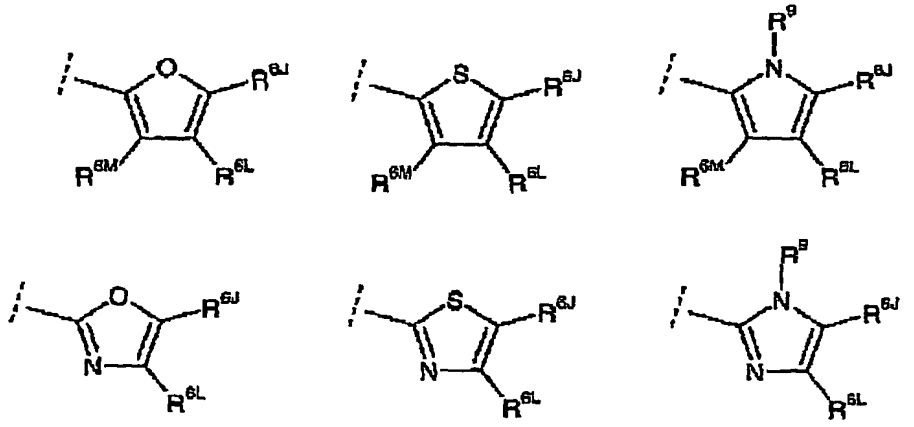
Preferably, in sub-formula (z), no more than two (for example no more than one) of J, L, M and Q are nitrogen (N).

Suitably, Q is C-[connection point to formula (I)].

Suitably, R^9 is a hydrogen atom (H) or methyl.

Suitably, R^{6J}, R^{6L}, R^{6M} and/or R^{6Q} independently is or are: a hydrogen atom (H); fluoro; chloro; C_{1-2}alkyl (e.g. methyl); C_1fluoroalkyl (e.g. CF_3); C_{1-2}alkoxy (methoxy); C_1fluoroalkoxy (e.g. CF_2HO-); OH (including any tautomer thereof); or phenyl optionally substituted by one substituent being fluoro, methyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, methoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy. More SuitablyR^{6J}, R^{6L}, R^{6M} and/or R^{6Q} independently is or are H, OH (including any keto tautomer thereof), or more preferably C_{1-2}alkyl (e.g. methyl) or C_1fluoroalkyl.

When Ar has the sub-formula (z), then sub-formula (z) can suitably be one of the following:



Suitably, R^{7a} is H or C_{1-2}alkyl, more suitably H or methyl. Suitably, R^{8a} is H.

Preferably, R^7 and/or R^8 are independently a hydrogen atom (H); C_{1-2}alkyl such as methyl; C_{3-6}cycloalkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted by one or two (e.g. one) substituents independently being: fluoro, chloro, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy; or R^7 and R^8 together are -$(CH_2)_n{}^6$- or -$(CH_2)_n{}^8$-X^7-$(CH_2)_n{}^9$- wherein X^7 is NR^{14} or preferably O.

When R^7 is cycloalkyl or optionally substituted phenyl, then preferably R^8 is neither cycloalkyl nor optionally substituted phenyl. In this case, R^8 can for example be H.

More preferably, R^7 and/or R^8 independently are a hydrogen atom (H) or C_{1-2}alkyl. It is preferable that R^8 is a hydrogen atom (H).

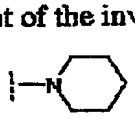
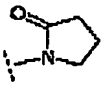
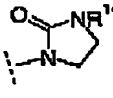
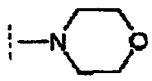
Preferably n^6 is 4 or 5. Preferably n^7 is 3 or 4. Preferably, n^8, n^9 and/or n^{10} independently is/are 2.

Preferably, R^{12} and/or R^{13} independently are H; C_{1-2}alkyl such as methyl; C_{3-6}cycloalkyl; or phenyl optionally substituted by one or two (e.g. one) substituents independently being: fluoro, chloro, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy; or R^{12} and R^{13} together are $-(CH_2)_n{}^{6a}-$ or $-(CH_2)_n{}^{8a}-X^{12}-(CH_2)_n{}^{9a}-$ in which X^{12} is NR^{14a} or preferably O.

When R^{12} is cycloalkyl or optionally substituted phenyl, then preferably R^{13} is neither cycloalkyl nor optionally substituted phenyl. In this case, R^{13} can for example be H.

More preferably, R^{12} and/or R^{13} independently are a hydrogen atom (H) or C_{1-2}alkyl. It is preferable that R^{13} is a hydrogen atom (H).

Preferably n^{6a} is 4 or 5. Preferably n^{7a} is 3 or 4. Preferably, n^{8a}, n^{9a} and/or n^{10a} independently is/are 2.

In one embodiment of the invention, NR^7R^8 and/or $NR^{12}R^{13}$ can for example independently be  or or  or  , or (i.e. R^{12} and R^{13} together or R^7 and R^8 together are $-(CH_2)_2-N(R^{14})-(CH_2)_2-$), or  (i.e. R^{12} and R^{13} together or R^7 and R^8 together are $-(CH_2)_2-O-(CH_2)_2-$), or NMe_2.

Suitably, R^{14}, R^{14a}, R^{17} and/or R^{17a} independently are: a hydrogen atom (H); C_{1-2}alkyl; C_1fluoroalkyl (e.g. CF_3); -C(O)Me; $-C(O)NH_2$; or $-S(O)_2Me$. More suitably, R^{14}, R^{14a}, R^{17} and/or R^{17a} independently is/are: H, C_{1-2}alkyl, or -C(O)Me; or for example H or C_{1-2}alkyl.

Suitably, R^{15} is a hydrogen atom (H) or C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. ^{t}Bu or C_{1-2}alkyl e.g. methyl); more suitably, R^{15} is a hydrogen atom (H).

Where R^{15a}, independent of other R^{15a}, is a hydrogen atom (H) or C_{1-4}alkyl, it can for example be H, ^{t}Bu or C_{1-2}alkyl such as methyl. Suitably, R^{15a}, independent of other R^{15a}, is H or C_{1-2}alkyl, more preferably H.

Preferably, R^{15b} is H.

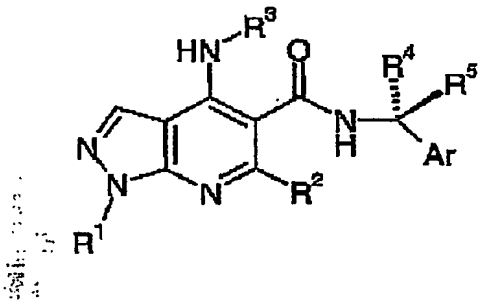
Suitably, R^{16} is C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl) or C_{3-6}cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{5-6}cycloalkyl); more suitably R^{16} is C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl).

Preferably, R^{16a} is:
C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl);
C_{3-6}cycloalkyl (e.g. C_{5-6}cycloalkyl) optionally substituted by one oxo (=O), OH or methyl substituent (e.g. optionally substituted at the 3- or 4-position of a C_{5-6}cycloalkyl ring; and/or preferably unsubstituted C_{3-6}cycloalkyl);
C_{3-6}cycloalkyl-CH_2- (e.g. C_{5-6}cycloalkyl-CH_2-);
pyridinyl (e.g. pyridin-2-yl) optionally substituted on a ring carbon atom by one of: a halogen atom, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy;
Ar^{5c};
phenyl optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently being: a halogen atom, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy;
benzyl optionally substituted on its ring by one or two substituents independently being: a halogen atom, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy; or
a 5- or 6-membered saturated heterocyclic ring connected at a ring-carbon and containing one or two ring-hetero-atoms independently selected from O, S, and N; wherein any ring-nitrogens which are present are present as NR^{27} where R^{27} is H, C_{1-2}alkyl or -C(O)Me (preferably H or C_{1-2}alkyl); and wherein the ring is not substituted at carbon.

More preferably, R^{16a} is: C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl); unsubstituted C_{3-6}cycloalkyl (e.g. unsubstituted C_{5-6}cycloalkyl); phenyl optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently being: a halogen atom, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy; or benzyl optionally substituted on its ring by one or two substituents independently being: a halogen atom, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_1fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy or C_1fluoroalkoxy.

Suitably, R^{30}, independent of other R^{30}, is a hydrogen atom (H) or C_{1-4}alkyl, for example H, t-butyl or C_{1-2}alkyl.

Preferably, the compound of formula (I) or the salt thereof is a compound of formula (IA) or a salt thereof:



(IA)

Formula (IA) means that more than 50% of the compound or salt present has the stereochemistry shown at the carbon atom bearing the R^4 and R^5 groups.

Preferably, the stereochemistry at the carbon atom bearing the R^4 and R^5 groups is such that there is an enantiomeric excess (e.e.) of 50% or more at the carbon atom bearing the R^4 and R^5 groups (ignoring the stereochemistry at any other carbon atoms). More preferably, the enantiomeric excess (e.e.) is 70% or more or 80% or more, still more preferably 90% or more, yet more preferably 95% or more, at the carbon atom bearing the R^4 and R^5 groups (ignoring the stereochemistry at any other carbon atoms).

"Enantiomeric excess" (e.e.) is defined as the percentage of the major isomer present minus the percentage of the minor isomer present. For example, if 95% of major isomer is present and 5% of the minor isomer is present, then the e.e. would be 90%.

In formula (IA), it is preferable that R^4 is not a hydrogen atom (H). In formula (IA), more preferably R^4 is methyl, ethyl, C_1fluoroalkyl (such as CF_3), $-CH_2OH$, or $-CH_2OMe$; still more preferably R^4 is methyl, ethyl, CF_3 or $-CH_2OH$; yet more preferably R^4 is methyl or ethyl; and most preferably R^4 is ethyl.

In formula (IA), it is particularly preferable that R^5 is a hydrogen atom (H) and R^4 is not a hydrogen atom (H). In formula (IA), it is more preferable that R^5 is a hydrogen atom (H); and R^4 is methyl, ethyl, C_1fluoroalkyl (such as CF_3), $-CH_2OH$, or $-CH_2OMe$ (e.g. methyl, ethyl, CF_3 or $-CH_2OH$). In formula (IA), it is most preferable that R^5 is a hydrogen atom (H); and R^4 is methyl or ethyl (preferably ethyl).

In formula (IA), when R^4 is not a hydrogen atom (H), and optionally when R^5 is a hydrogen atom (H), it is particularly preferable that Ar, such as having sub-formula (x1), is a monocycle. That is, in formula (IA) and when R^4 is not a hydrogen atom (H), it is particularly preferable that two adjacent groups selected from R^{6A}, R^{6B}, R^{6D}, R^{6E} and R^{6F} are not taken together to form part of a second ring.

The Examples 1, 8, 24, 28, 63, 127, 129, 174, and 178 disclosed herein, having the formula (IA) wherein R^5 is H, and wherein R^4 is methyl, ethyl, $-CH_2OH$, or $-CH_2OMe$, and wherein Ar is a monocycle, have been found to have greater PDE4B inhibitory activity than the comparable Examples 6, 7, 29, 26, 64, 126, 124, 170, and 177 which have the opposite stereochemistry at the CR^4R^5 carbon atom.

In an especially preferable embodiment, N-CR^4R^5-Ar is the N-CR^4R^5-Ar group as defined in any one of Examples 1 to 314.

It is particularly preferred that the compound of formula (I) or the salt thereof is:

1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-phenylpropyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]ethyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-(diphenylmethyl)-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(3-pyridinyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-1-phenylpropyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-1-phenylethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-phenylethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-methyl-1-(4-pyridinyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-phenylethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(ethyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-(3-hydroxy-1-phenylpropyl)-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(3-hydroxyphenyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[2-(dimethylamino)-1-phenylethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-phenyl-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(hydroxymethyl)-1-phenylpropyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(propyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
methyl 3-({[1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridin-5-yl]carbonyl}amino)-3-phenylpropanoate
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
ethyl ({[1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridin-5-yl]carbonyl}amino)(phenyl)acetate
1-ethyl-*N*-{(1*R*)-1-[3-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-2-(methyloxy)-1-phenylethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[(1*R*)-2-amino-2-oxo-1-phenylethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-2-(methyloxy)-1-phenylethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-(2-hydroxy-1,1-diphenylethyl)-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3-cyanophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[cyano(phenyl)methyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-{cyclopropyl[4-(methyloxy)phenyl]methyl}-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(1-naphthalenyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-(1,2-diphenylethyl)-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(methyloxy)phenyl]butyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-(1-naphthalenyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-1-(1-naphthalenyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(aminocarbonyl)-1-phenylpropyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-(1-phenylcyclopentyl)-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-(4-phenyltetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-yl)-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-(1-phenylcyclopropyl)-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-{1-[4-(cyclohexyloxy)-3-methylphenyl]ethyl}-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-{1-[3-(cyclohexyloxy)-4-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-{1-[4-(cyclohexyloxy)-3-hydroxyphenyl]ethyl}-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-{1-[4-(cyclopentyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-{1-[4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)phenyl]cycloheptyl}-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-bromophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-1-(4-iodophenyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-{1-[4-(aminosulfonyl)phenyl]ethyl}-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-(1-methyl-1-phenylpropyl)-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(1,3-benzodioxol-5-yl)cyclohexyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(methyloxy)phenyl]cyclohexyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)cyclohexyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(3-chlorophenyl)cyclopentyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2-chlorophenyl)cyclopentyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-{1-[4-(1,1-dimethylethyl)phenyl]cyclohexyl}-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl]ethyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*,2*R*)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylpropyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{(1*R*)-1-[4-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{(1*S*)-1-[4-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-(1-phenylhexyl)-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-(1-phenylpentyl)-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-(2-methyl-1-phenylpropyl)-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-(1-phenylbutyl)-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-*N*-(2,2,2-trifluoro-1-phenylethyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[cyclopropyl(phenyl)methyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)propyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-(4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-(1-phenylethyl)-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[(1*R*)-1-(4-bromophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxyethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-2-hydroxyethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[3-(methyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(methyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-bromophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(propyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-methylphenyl)propyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl]propyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(2-methylphenyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-(1-{4-[(difluoromethyl)oxy]phenyl}ethyl)-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-*N*-{1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(2-methylphenyl)propyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(ethyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-(1-{4-[(difluoromethyl)oxy]phenyl}propyl)-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-*N*-{1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chloro-2-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(4-chloro-2-fluorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(3-hydroxyphenyl)propyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-5-yl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2-naphthalenyl)ethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-bromophenyl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-*N*-{2,2,2-trifluoro-1-[3-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-phenylpropyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-(diphenylmethyl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-phenylethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
ethyl ({[4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridin-5-yl]carbonyl}amino)(phenyl)acetate
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethyl]-4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-(1-methyl-1-phenylethyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)propyl]-4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-(1,2-diphenylethyl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(propyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
methyl 3-({[4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridin-5-yl]carbonyl}amino)-3-phenylpropanoate
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(hydroxymethyl)-1-phenylpropyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-(3-hydroxy-1-phenylpropyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(ethyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(3-hydroxyphenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[1-phenyl-2-(1-pyrrolidinyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-[2-(dimethylamino)-1-phenylethyl]-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-2-(methyloxy)-1-phenylethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[(1*R*)-2-amino-2-oxo-1-phenylethyl]-4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-{(1*R*)-1-[3-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-2-(methyloxy)-1-phenylethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-1-(1-naphthalenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[phenyl(4-phenyl-1,3-thiazol-2-yl)methyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[cyano(phenyl)methyl]-4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(1-naphthalenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-(2-hydroxy-1,1-diphenylethyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-{(1*R*)-1-[4-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)propyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-[1-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-(4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-(1-phenylethyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[(1*R*)-1-(4-bromophenyl)ethyl]-4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-[1-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[3-(methyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(methyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-bromophenyl)propyl]-4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(propyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-methylphenyl)propyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(2-methylphenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-(1-{4-[(difluoromethyl)oxy]phenyl}ethyl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(2-methylphenyl)propyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(ethyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-(1-{4-[(difluoromethyl)oxy]phenyl}propyl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-[1-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chloro-2-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-[1-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chloro-2-fluorophenyl)propyl]-4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)propyl]-4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(3-hydroxyphenyl)propyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxyethyl]-4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-*N*-[1-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-5-yl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-(cyclohexylamino)-1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2-naphthalenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-[(1-acetyl-4-piperidinyl)amino]-1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-1-phenylpropyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-[(1-acetyl-4-piperidinyl)amino]-1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-phenylethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-[(1-acetyl-4-piperidinyl)amino]-*N*-(diphenylmethyl)-1-ethyl-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-[(1-acetyl-4-piperidinyl)amino]-1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-[(1-acetyl-4-piperidinyl)amino]-1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-phenylpropyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-(4-nitrophenyl)ethyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(ethyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-*N*-{1-[4-(propyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-*N*-(1-phenylpropyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

(2*R*)-[({1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridin-5-yl}carbonyl)amino][3-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethanoic acid

1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl]ethyl}-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(2-methylphenyl)ethyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-{(1*R*)-1-[4-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)propyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-(4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-*N*-(1-phenylethyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[(1*R*)-1-(4-bromophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxyethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-(1-{4-[(difluoromethyl)oxy]phenyl}ethyl)-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-*N*-{1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(2-methylphenyl)propyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(ethyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-(1-{4-[(difluoromethyl)oxy]phenyl}propyl)-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-*N*-{1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-phenylpropyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-{(1*R*)-1-[3-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(4-chloro-2-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(4-chloro-2-fluorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(3-hydroxyphenyl)ethyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(3-hydroxyphenyl)propyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[3-(methyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(methyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(4-bromophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-*N*-{1-[4-(propyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-methylphenyl)propyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl]propyl}-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-*N*-(1-{4-[(1-methylethyl)oxy]phenyl}ethyl)-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-*N*-[1-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2-naphthalenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(4-bromophenyl)-2,2,2-trifluoroethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-*N*-{2,2,2-trifluoro-1-[3-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[1-(5,6,7,8-tetrahydro-2-naphthalenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[(1*S*)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,3-dihydro-1*H*-inden-5-yl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)-2-hydroxyethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(ethyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-{1-[4-(propyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[(1*R*)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-(1-phenylpropyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-{1-[4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-{(1*R*)-1-[4-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)propyl]-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-(4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-(1-phenylethyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[(1*R*)-1-(4-bromophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,3-dichlorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-{1-[3-(methyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-{1-[4-(methyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-bromophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-{1-[4-(propyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[1-(4-methylphenyl)propyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-{1-[4-(1-methylethyl)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[1-(2-methylphenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-(1-{4-[(difluoromethyl)oxy]phenyl}ethyl)-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-{1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[1-(2-methylphenyl)propyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(ethyloxy)phenyl]propyl}-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-(1-{4-[(difluoromethyl)oxy]phenyl}propyl)-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-{1-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]propyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-phenylpropyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-{(1*R*)-1-[3-(methyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chloro-2-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,3-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chloro-2-fluorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[1-(3-hydroxyphenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[1-(3-hydroxyphenyl)propyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-(1-{4-[(1-methylethyl)oxy]phenyl}ethyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-(1-{4-[(1-methylethyl)oxy]phenyl}ethyl)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-4-{[4-(hydroxyimino)cyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[(1*S*,3*R*)- and/or (1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
1-ethyl-4-{[(1*S*,3*R*)- and/or (1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-(4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[(1*S*,3*R*)- and/or (1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Isomer 1)
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[(1*S*,3*R*)- and/or (1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Isomer 2)
N-[1-(3,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-{[(1*S*,3*R*)- and/or (1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]amino}-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-6-methyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide

N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-6-methyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 1)
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 2)
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 1)
N-[1-(4-chlorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 2)
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(ethyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 1)
1-ethyl-*N*-{1-[4-(ethyloxy)phenyl]ethyl}-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 2)
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 1)
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 2)
N-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 1)
N-[1-(3,5-dimethylphenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 2)
1-ethyl-*N*-(1-{4-[(1-methylethyl)oxy]phenyl}ethyl)-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 1)
1-ethyl-*N*-(1-{4-[(1-methylethyl)oxy]phenyl}ethyl)-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 2)
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 1)
1-ethyl-*N*-[1-(4-fluorophenyl)ethyl]-4-[(4-oxocyclohexyl)amino]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 2)
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 1)
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 2)
1-ethyl-4-{[(1*S*,3*R*)- and/or (1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-(4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Diastereoisomer 1)
1-ethyl-4-{[(1*S*,3*R*)- and/or (1R,3S)-3-hydroxycyclohexyl]amino}-*N*-[(1*R*)-1-(4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Diastereoisomer 2)
N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide (Enantiomer 2) hydrochloride
4-{[1-(aminocarbonyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-1-ethyl-N-[(1R)-1-(4-methylphenyl)ethyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide

4-{[1-(aminocarbonyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-1-ethyl-N-[(1R)-1-phenylethyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-{[1-(aminocarbonyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-N-[(1R)-1-(4-bromophenyl)ethyl]-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-{[1-(aminocarbonyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-N-[1-(2,4-dimethylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-{[1-(aminocarbonyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-N-[1-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide
4-{[1-(aminocarbonyl)-4-piperidinyl]amino}-N-[1-(4-chloro-2-fluorophenyl)propyl]-1-ethyl-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide, or
4-{[4-(aminocarbonyl)cyclohexyl]amino}-1-ethyl-N-[(1R)-1-phenylethyl]-1H-pyrazolo[3,4-b]pyridine-5-carboxamide;

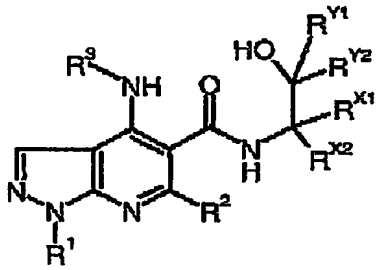
as a compound or a salt thereof, e.g. a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

The structures of these specific compounds are given in Examples 1 to 314 hereinafter.

It is particularly preferred that the compound of formula (I) or the salt thereof is one of Examples 1 to 314, as a compound or a salt thereof, e.g. a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. The structures of these specific compounds are given in Examples 1 to 314 hereinafter, and their names are given in the Examples section.

In one embodiment, is still further preferred that the compound of formula (I) or the salt thereof is a compound of Example 73, 98, 283, 304, 306, 307, 310 or 311, as defined by the structures and/or names described herein, or a salt thereof, e.g. a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. The structures and names of these Examples are described in the Examples section. These Examples are thought to be suitable for inhaled administration.

According to one optional embodiment of the invention, the compound of formula (I) or salt thereof can be a compound of Formula (XXVIII) or a salt thereof:



(XXVIII)

wherein:

R^{X1} is a hydrogen atom (H), C_{1-2}alkyl or C_1fluoroalkyl (preferably H);

R^{Y1} is a hydrogen atom (H) or C_{1-2}alkyl;

R^{Y2} is a hydrogen atom (H); C_{1-3}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl or methyl); or $-(CH_2)_n{}^{7aa}$-OH;

wherein n^{7aa} is 1, 2 or 3;

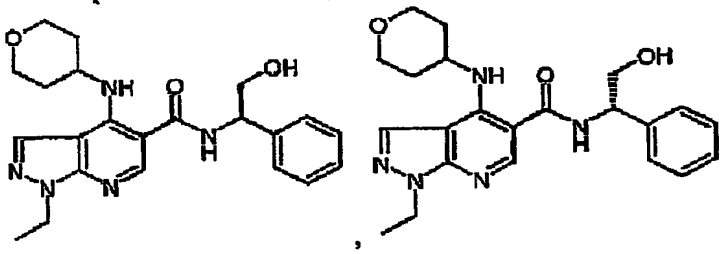
and

R^{X2} is Ar^A, wherein:

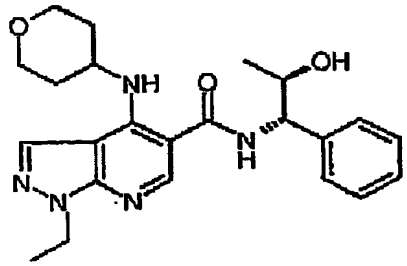
(i) Ar^A is phenyl optionally substituted by one or two substituents independently being: fluoro, chloro, bromo, C_{1-2}alkyl, C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl, C_{1-2}alkoxy, C_{1-2}fluoroalkoxy; OH; $-NR^{11aa}R^{11bb}$ (wherein R^{11aa} is H or C_{1-2}alkyl and R^{11bb} is H, C_{1-2}alkyl, $-C(O)-C_{1-2}$alkyl or $-S(O)_2-C_{1-2}$alkyl); cyano; $-C(O)-NR^{11cc}R^{11dd}$ (wherein R^{11cc} and R^{11dd} independently are H or C_{1-2}alkyl); $-C(O)-OR^{11ee}$ wherein R^{11ee} is H or C_{1-2}alkyl; or $-S(O)_2-R^{11ff}$ (wherein R^{11ff} is C_{1-2}alkyl, NH_2, NHMe or NMe_2); or the phenyl Ar^A is optionally substituted at two adjacent Ar ring atoms by the two ends of a chain which is: $-(CH_2)_4-$, $-(CH_2)_3-$, or -CH=CH-CH=CH-; or

(ii) Ar^A is an optionally substituted 5-membered heterocyclic aromatic ring containing 1, 2, 3 or 4 heteroatoms (e.g. 1, 2 or 3 heteroatoms) selected from O, N or S; and wherein when the heterocyclic aromatic ring Ar^A contains 2, 3 or 4 heteroatoms (e.g. 2 or 3 heteroatoms), one is selected from O, N and S and the remaining heteroatom(s) are N; and wherein the heterocyclic aromatic ring Ar^A is optionally substituted by one or two groups independently being C_{1-4}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-2}alkyl) or OH (including any keto tautomer of an OH-substituted aromatic ring).

A compound of formula (XXVIII) can suitably be:



, or



These three compounds are:

1-Ethyl-*N*-[(1*R*)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide,

1-Ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylethyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide, and
1-Ethyl-*N*-[(1*S*,2*R*)-2-hydroxy-1-phenylpropyl]-4-(tetrahydro-2*H*-pyran-4-ylamino)-1*H*-pyrazolo[3,4-*b*]pyridine-5-carboxamide.

These three compounds are disclosed as Intermediates 42, 43 and 46 respectively in copending international patent application PCT/EP2003/014867 (=PCT/EP03/14867), filed on 19 December 2003 in the name of Glaxo Group Limited, the content of which is incorporated herein by reference. The compounds of Formula (XXVIII) are also disclosed in PCT/EP2003/014867 and are incorporated herein by reference.

Salts, solvates, isomers, tautomeric forms, molecular weights, etc.

Because of their potential use in medicine, the salts of the compounds of formula (I) are preferably pharmaceutically acceptable. Suitable pharmaceutically acceptable salts can include acid or base addition salts.

A pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt can be formed by reaction of a compound of formula (I) with a suitable inorganic or organic acid (such as hydrobromic, hydrochloric, sulfuric, nitric, phosphoric, succinic, maleic, formic, acetic, propionic, fumaric, citric, tartaric, lactic, benzoic, salicylic, glutamaic, aspartic, p-toluenesulfonic, benzenesulfonic, methanesulfonic, ethanesulfonic, naphthalenesulfonic such as 2-naphthalenesulfonic, or hexanoic acid), optionally in a suitable solvent such as an organic solvent, to give the salt which is usually isolated for example by crystallisation and filtration. A pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt of a compound of formula (I) can comprise or be for example a hydrobromide, hydrochloride, sulfate, nitrate, phosphate, succinate, maleate, formate, acetate, propionate, fumarate, citrate, tartrate, lactate, benzoate, salicylate, glutamate, aspartate, p-toluenesulfonate, benzenesulfonate, methanesulfonate, ethanesulfonate, naphthalenesulfonate (e.g. 2- naphthalenesulfonate) or hexanoate salt.

A pharmaceutically acceptable base addition salt can be formed by reaction of a compound of formula (I) with a suitable inorganic or organic base (e.g. triethylamine, ethanolamine, triethanolamine, choline, arginine, lysine or histidine), optionally in a suitable solvent such as an organic solvent, to give the base addition salt which is usually isolated for example by crystallisation and filtration.

Other suitable pharmaceutically acceptable salts include pharmaceutically acceptable metal salts, for example pharmaceutically acceptable alkali-metal or alkaline-earth-metal salts such as sodium, potassium, calcium or magnesium salts; in particular pharmaceutically acceptable metal salts of one or more carboxylic acid moieties that may be present in the the compound of formula (I).

Other non-pharmaceutically acceptable salts, eg. oxalates, may be used, for example in the isolation of compounds of the invention, and are included within the scope of this invention.

The invention includes within its scope all possible stoichiometric and non-stoichiometric forms of the salts of the compounds of formula (I).

Also included within the scope of the invention are all solvates, hydrates and complexes of compounds and salts of the invention.

Certain groups, substituents, compounds or salts included in the present invention may be present as isomers. The present invention includes within its scope all such isomers, including racemates, enantiomers and mixtures thereof.

In the compounds or salts, pharmaceutical compositions, uses, methods of treatment/prophylaxis, methods of preparing, etc. according to the present invention, where a defined isomeric configuration e.g. stereochemical configuration is described or claimed, the invention includes a mixture comprising (a) a major component of the compound or salt which is in the described or claimed configuration, together with (b) one or more minor components of the compound or salt which is/are not in the described or claimed configuration. Preferably, in such a mixture, the major component of the compound or salt which is in the described or claimed configuration represents 70% or more, or 75% or more, more preferably 85% or more, still more preferably 90% or more, yet more preferably 95% or more, yet more preferably 98% or more, of the total amount of compound or salt present in the mixture on a molarity basis.

The percentage of one isomeric / stereochemical component in a mixture of different isomeric / stereochemical components, and if appropriate enantiomeric and/or diastereomeric excesses, can be measured using techniques known in the art. Such methods include the following:

(1) Measurement using NMR (e.g. ^{1}H NMR) spectroscopy in the presence of chiral agent. One can measure a nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrum (preferably a ^{1}H NMR spectrum, and/or a solution-phase NMR spectrum e.g. in $CDCl_3$ or D6-DMSO solvent) of the compound/salt mixture in the presence of a suitable chiral agent which "splits" the NMR peaks of a given atom in different isomers into different peak positions. The chiral agent can be: i) an optically pure reagent which reacts with the compound/salt e.g. to form a mixture of diastereomers, ii) a chiral solvent, iii) a chiral molecule which forms a transient species (e.g. diastereomeric species) with the compound/salt, or iv) a chiral shift reagent. See e.g. J. March, "Advanced Organic Chemistry", 4th edn., 1992, pages 125-126 and refs. 138-146 cited therein. A chiral shift reagent can be a chiral lanthanide shift reagent such as tris[3-trifluoroacetyl-*d*-camphorato]europium-(III) or others as described in Morrill, "Lanthanide Shift Reagents in Stereochemical Analysis", VCH, New York, 1986. Whatever the chiral agent is that is used, usually, the relative integrals (intensities) for the NMR peaks of a given atom or group in different isomers can provide a measurement of the relative amounts of each isomer present.

(2) Measurement using chiral chromatography, especially on an analytical scale. A suitable chiral column which separates the different isomeric components can be used to effect separation, e.g. using gas or liquid chromatography such as HPLC, and/or e.g. on an analytical scale. The peaks for each isomer can be integrated (area under each peak); and a comparison or ratio of the integrals for the different isomers present can give a measurement of the percentage of each isomeric component present. See for example: "Chiral Chromatography", Separation Science Series Author: T.E. Beesley and R.P.W. Scott, John Wiley & Sons, Ltd., Chichester, UK, 1998, electronic Book ISBN: 0585352690, Book ISBN: 0471974277.

(3) Separation of pre-existing diastereomeric mixtures which are compounds/salts of the invention can be achieved (usually directly, without derivatisation) using separation techniques such as gas or liquid chromatography. Diastereomeric ratios and/or excesses can thereby be derived e.g. from the relative peak areas or relative separated masses.

(4) Conversion with a chiral / optically-active agent and subsequent separation of the resulting isomers, e.g. diastereomers. Conversion can be via derivatisation of a derivatisable group (e.g. -OH, -NHR) on the compound/salt with an optically-active derivatising group (e.g. optically active acid chloride or acid anhydride); or can be via formation of an acid or base addition salt of the compound by treatment of the compound with an optically-active acid or base, such as + or – di-para-toluoyl tartaric acid. After derivatisation, separation of the resulting isomers e.g. diastereomers, can be using gas or liquid chromatography (usually non-chiral); or (especially with isomeric salts) can be by selective crystallisation of a single isomeric e.g. diastereoisomeric salt. Determination of isomeric ratios and/or excesses can be using chromatography peak areas or measurement of mass of each separated isomer.

See e.g. J. March, "Advanced Organic Chemistry", 4th edn., 1992, pages 120-121 and 126, and refs. 105-115 and 147-149 cited therein.

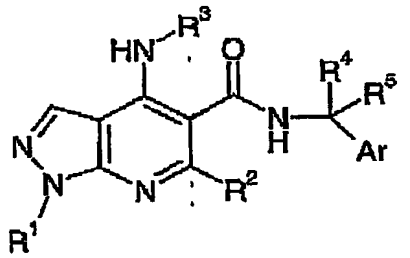
(5) Measurement of optical activity [alpha] of mixture and comparison with optical activity of pure isomer $[alpha]_{max}$ if available (e.g. see J. March, "Advanced Organic Chemistry", 4th edn., 1992, page 125 and refs. 138-139 cited therein). This assumes a substantially linear relationship between [alpha] and concentration.

Certain of the groups, e.g. heteroaromatic ring systems, included in compounds of formula (I) or their salts may exist in one or more tautomeric forms. The present invention includes within its scope all such tautomeric forms, including mixtures.

Especially when intended for oral medicinal use, the compound of formula (I) can optionally have a molecular weight of 1000 or less, for example 800 or less, in particular 650 or less or 600 or less. Molecular weight here refers to that of the unsolvated "free base" compound, that is excluding any molecular weight contributed by any addition salts, solvent (e.g. water) molecules, etc.

Synthetic Process Routes

The following processes can be used to make the compounds of the invention:

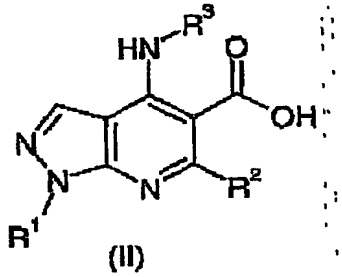


(I)

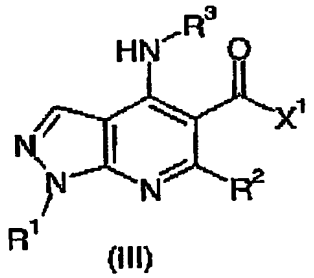
Some of the following synthetic processes may be exemplified for compounds of Formula (I) wherein R^2 is a hydrogen atom (H). However, some or all of these processes can also be used with appropriate modification, e.g. of starting materials and reagents, for making compounds of Formula (I) wherein R^2 is methyl.

Process A

To form a compound of formula (I), a carboxylic acid of formula (II) can be converted into an activated compound of formula (III) wherein X^1 is a leaving group substitutable by an amine (as defined below), and subsequently the activated compound can be reacted with an amine of formula $ArCR^4R^5NH_2$:

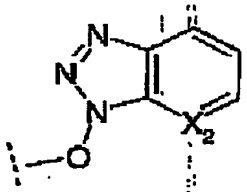


(II)



(III)

For example, the activated compound (the compound of formula (III)) can be the acid chloride (X^1 = Cl). This can be formed from the carboxylic acid of formula (II) e.g. by reaction with thionyl chloride, either in an organic solvent such as chloroform or without solvent. Alternatively, the activated compound (the compound of formula (III)) can be an activated ester wherein the leaving group X^1 is



X_2 = CH or N

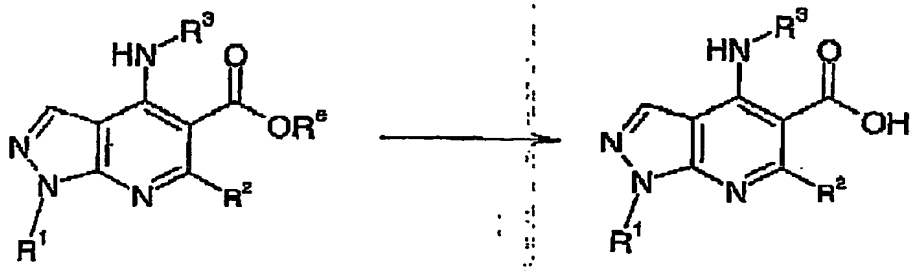
The latter activated compound of formula (III) can be formed from the carboxylic acid of formula (II) either:

(a) by reaction of the carboxylic acid with a carbodiimide such as EDC, which is 1-ethyl-3-(3'-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide and is also 1-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-3-ethylcarbodiimide, or a salt thereof e.g. hydrochloride salt,
preferably followed by reaction of the resulting product with 1-hydroxybenzotriazole (HOBT); reaction (a) usually being carried out in the presence of a solvent (preferably anhydrous) such as dimethyl formamide (DMF) or acetonitrile and/or preferably under anhydrous conditions and/or usually at room temperature (e.g. about 20 to about 25 °C);

or:

(b) by reaction with 2-(1H-benzotriazole-1-yl)-1,1,3,3-tetramethyluronium tetrafluoroborate (TBTU) or O-(7-Azabenzotriazol-1-yl)-N,N,N',N'-tetramethyluronium hexafluorophosphate (HATU) ,in the presence of a base such as diisopropylethylamine ($^iPr_2NEt$ = DIPEA), and usually in the presence of a solvent such as dimethyl formamide (DMF) or acetonitrile and/or preferably under anhydrous conditions and/or usually at room temperature (e.g. about 20 to about 25 °C).

Compounds of formula (II) can be prepared by hydrolysis of an compound of formula (IV), an ester:



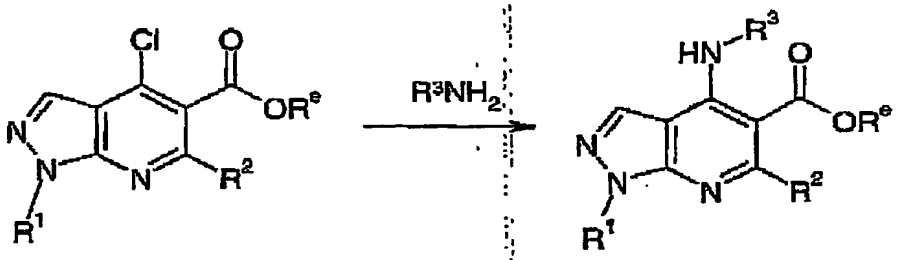
(IV) (II)

This process preferably involves reaction of compound of formula (IV) with either:

(a) a base, such as sodium hydroxide or potassium hydroxide, in a solvent, e.g. an aqueous solvent such as aqueous ethanol or aqueous dioxane or

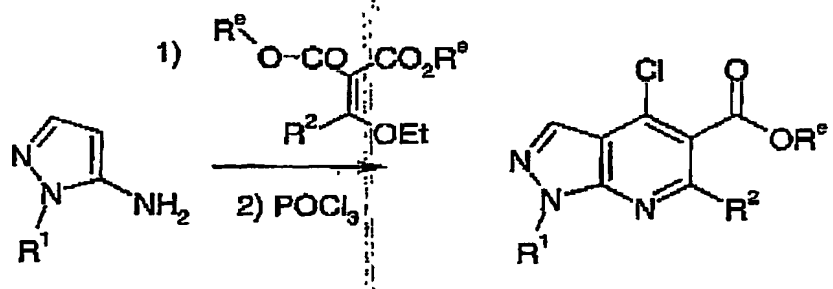
(b) an acid, such as hydrochloric acid, in a solvent, e.g. an aqueous solvent such as aqueous dioxane.

Compounds of formula (IV) can be prepared according to a method, for example as described by Yu et. al. in *J. Med Chem.*, 2001, 44, 1025-1027, by reaction of a compound of formula (V) with an amine of formula R^3NH_2. The reaction is preferably carried out in the presence of a base such as triethylamine or N,N-diisopropylethylamine, and/or in an organic solvent such as ethanol, dioxane or acetonitrile. The reaction may require heating e.g. to ca. 60-100°C, for example ca. 80-90°C:



(V) (IV)

Compounds of formula (V) are also described in the above reference. They can be prepared by reaction of a compound of formula (VI) with $(R^2)(OEt)C=C(CO_2R^e)_2$, which can for example be diethyl(ethoxymethylene)malonate (wherein R^2 is H and R^e is Et) or diethyl 2-(1-ethoxyethylidene)malonate (wherein R^2 is Me and R^e is Et), with heating, followed by reaction with phosphorous oxychloride, again with heating:

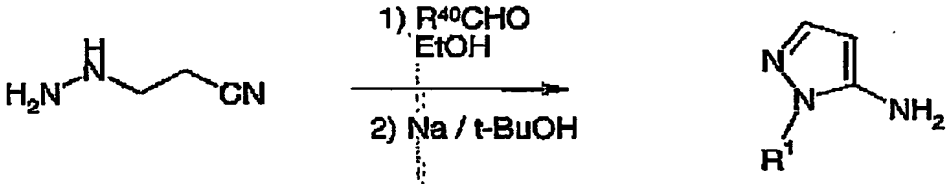


(VI) (V)

For examples of the compound (VI) to compound (V) process, see for example: (i) the Intermediate 1 synthesis and G. Yu et. al., *J. Med Chem.*, 2001, 44, 1025-1027 hereinafter, where R^2 = H and R^1 = ethyl; and see (ii) the Intermediate 10 synthesis hereinafter where R^2 = Me and R^1 = ethyl; and see (iii) Intermediate 122 synthesis

hereinafter wherein R^2 = H and R^1 = methyl (i.e. reaction of 5-amino-1-methyl pyrazole with diethylethoxymethylene malonate).

Where the desired amino pyrazole of formula (VI) is not commercially available, preparation of the amino pyrazole (VI) can be achieved, for example, using methods described by Dorgan et. al. in *J. Chem. Soc., Perkin Trans. 1*, (4), 938-42; 1980, by reaction of cyanoethyl hydrazine with a suitable aldehyde of formula $R^{40}CHO$ in a solvent such as ethanol, with heating, followed by reduction, for example reduction with sodium in a solvent such as t-butanol. R^{40} should be chosen so as to contain one less carbon atom than R^1, for example R^{40} = methyl will afford R^1 = ethyl.

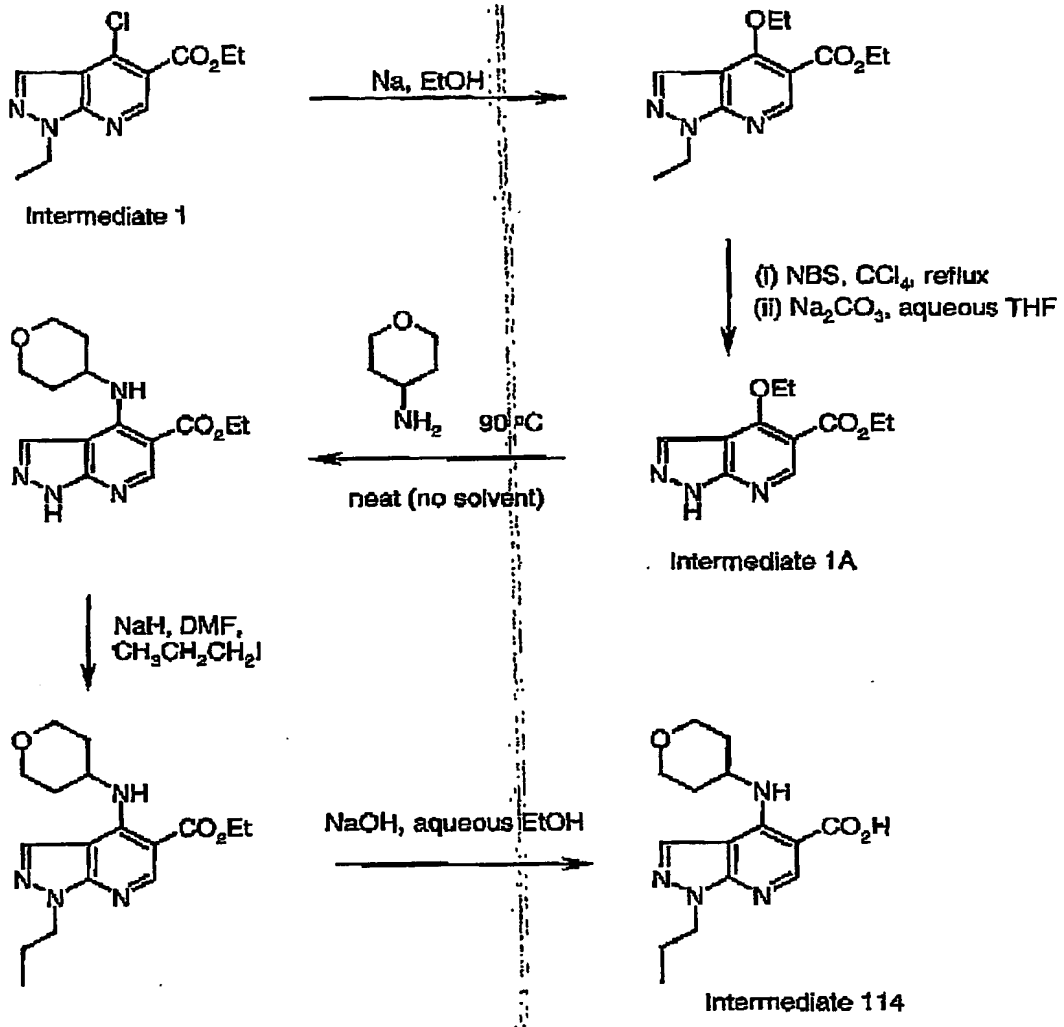


(VI)

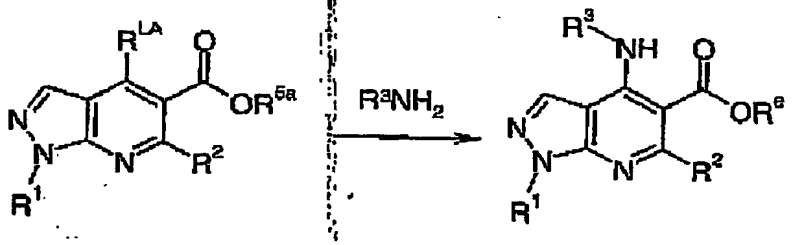
Alternatively, e.g. where the desired amino pyrazole of Formula (VI) is not commercially available, preparation of the 4-amino 5-ester/acid compounds of Formulae (IV) and (II) can be achieved from a (different R^1) 4-chloro 5-ester compound of Formula (V) (e.g. Intermediate 1, wherein R^1 = ethyl), using a generalised version of the reaction scheme shown in Intermediate 114 and shown below. In this method:

- the 4-chloro 5-ester pyrazolopyridine of Formula (V) (e.g. Intermediate 1) is optionally converted to the 4-alkoxy (e.g. C_{1-4}alkoxy such as ethoxy) pyrazolopyridine;
- the R^1 group is removed (e.g. using N-bromosuccinimide (NBS) and preferably base e.g. Na_2CO_3) (e.g. to give Intermediate 1A – an alternative synthesis for which is given under "Intermediate 1A" hereinafter);
- the 4-amino NHR^3 group is inserted by displacing the 4-chloro or 4-alkoxy group by reaction with R^3NH_2;
- and the pyrazolopyridine is alkylated at N-1 by reacting it with R^1-X^{41} where X^{41} is a group displaceable by the N-1 nitrogen of the pyrazolopyridine in order to re-insert the desired R^1 group. X^{41} can for example be a halogen, e.g. Cl, Br or I; or X^{41} can be $-O-SO_2-R^{41}$ where R^{41} is C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl, or phenyl optionally substituted by C_{1-2}alkyl.

The scheme below (Intermediate 114 scheme) shows a suitable route and conditions for this, to insert R^1 = n-propyl:

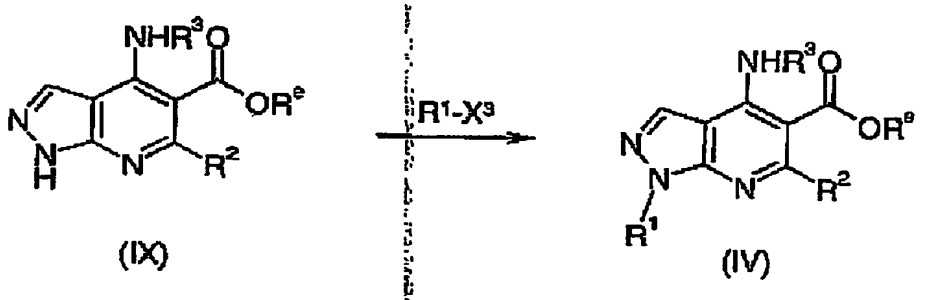


In an alternative embodiment of Process A, the 4-chloro substituent in the compound of formula (V) can be replaced by another halogen atom, such as a bromine atom, or by another suitable leaving group which is displaceable by an amine of formula R^3NH_2. The leaving group displaceable by the amine can for example be R^{LA}, in a compound of formula (Va), wherein R^{LA} is an alkoxy group OR^{35} such as OC_{1-4}alkyl (in particular OEt) or a group $-O-S(O)_2-R^{37}$, wherein R^{37} is C_{1-8}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-2}alkyl such as methyl), C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl (e.g. C_{1-4}fluoroalkyl or C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl such as CF_3 or C_4F_9), or phenyl wherein the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or two of independently C_{1-2}alkyl, halogen or C_{1-2}alkoxy (such as phenyl or 4-methyl-phenyl). The reaction of the compound of formula (Va) with the amine of formula R^3NH_2 may be carried out with or without solvent and may require heating:



(Va) (IV)

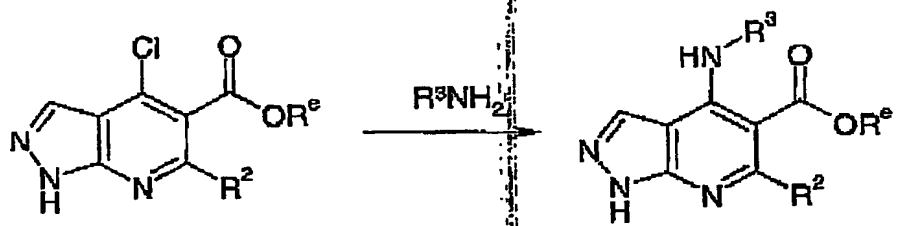
In another alternative embodiment of Process A, the compound of formula (IV), described herein, can be prepared by reaction of a compound of formula (IX) with an alkylating agent of formula R^1-X^3, where X^3 is a leaving group displaceable by the 1-position pyrazolopyridine nitrogen atom of the compound of formula (IX):



(IX) (IV)

A suitable alkylating agent of formula R^1-X^3 can be used. For example, X^3 can be a halogen atom such as a chlorine atom or more preferably a bromine or iodine atom, or X^3 can be $-O-S(O)_2-R^{36}$ wherein R^{36} is C_{1-8}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-2}alkyl such as methyl), C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl (e.g. C_{1-4}fluoroalkyl or C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl such as CF_3 or C_4F_9), or phenyl wherein the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or two of independently C_{1-2}alkyl, halogen or C_{1-2}alkoxy (such as phenyl or 4-methyl-phenyl). The reaction is preferably carried out in the presence of a base; the base can for example comprise or be potassium carbonate, sodium carbonate, sodium hydride, potassium hydride, or a basic resin or polymer such as polymer-bound 2-tert-butylimino-2-diethylamino-1,3-dimethyl-perhydro-1,3,2-diazaphosphorine. The reaction is preferably carried out in the presence of a solvent, e.g. an organic solvent such as DMF; the solvent is preferably anhydrous.

Compounds of formula (IX) can be prepared, using a method analogous to that used for the preparation of compounds of formula (IV) from compounds of formula (V), by reaction of a compound of formula (X) (which is the same as compound of formula (V) but wherein R^1 = H) with an amine of formula R^3NH_2. The reaction is preferably carried out in the presence of a base such as triethylamine or N,N-diisopropylethylamine, and/or in an organic solvent such as ethanol, dioxane or acetonitrile. The reaction may require heating e.g. to ca. 60-100°C, for example ca. 80-90°C:

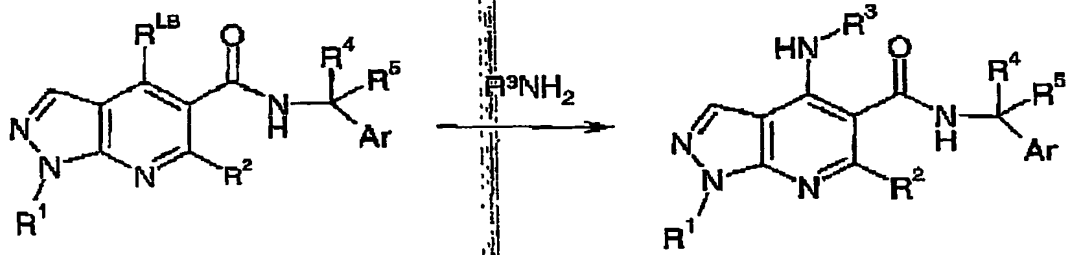


(V) (IX)

Compound of formula (V) can be made as dewcribed above.

Process B

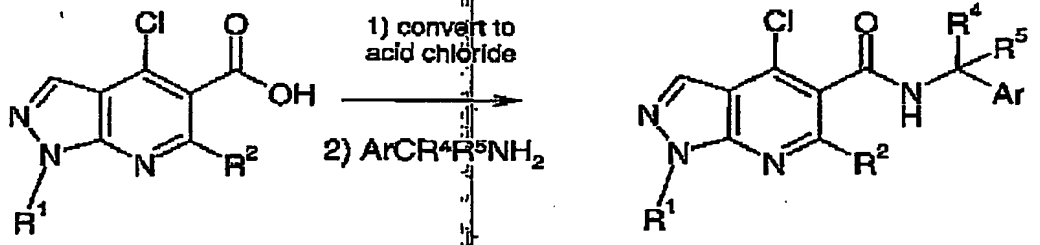
Compounds of formula (I) can be prepared by reaction of a compound of formula (VII) with an amine of formula R^3NH_2. In the compound of formula (VII), R^{LB} is a leaving group which is displaceable by the amine of formula R^3NH_2. R^{LB} can preferably be a bromine atom (Br) or more preferably a chlorine atom (Cl), or alternatively R^{LB} can be an alkoxy group OR^{35} such as OC_{1-4}alkyl (in particular OEt) or a group $-O-S(O)_2-R^{37}$, wherein R^{37} is C_{1-8}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-2}alkyl such as methyl), C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl (e.g. C_{1-4}fluoroalkyl or C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl such as CF_3 or C_4F_9), or phenyl wherein the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or two of independently C_{1-2}alkyl, halogen or C_{1-2}alkoxy (such as phenyl or 4-methyl-phenyl). The reaction of (VII) to (I) is preferably carried out in the presence of a base, such as triethylamine or N,N-diisopropylethylamine, and/or in an organic solvent such as ethanol, THF, dioxane or acetonitrile. The reaction may require heating, e.g. to ca. 60-100 °C or ca. 80-90 °C, for example for 8-48 or 12-24 hours:



(VII) (I)

Compounds of formula (VII), wherein R^{LB} is a chlorine atom (compound of formula (VIIa), can be prepared in a two step procedure as described by Bare et. al. in *J. Med.*

Chem. 1989, 32, 2561-2573. This process involves 2 steps. In the first step, a compound of formula (VIII) is reacted with thionyl chloride (or another agent suitable for forming an acid chloride from a carboxylic acid), either in an organic solvent such as chloroform or THF, or as a neat solution. This reaction may require heating and the thus-formed intermediate may or may not be isolated. Step two involves reaction with an amine of formula $ArCR^4R^5NH_2$, in an organic solvent such as THF or chloroform and may also involve the use of a base such as triethylamine or diisopropylethylamine:



(VIII) (VIIa)

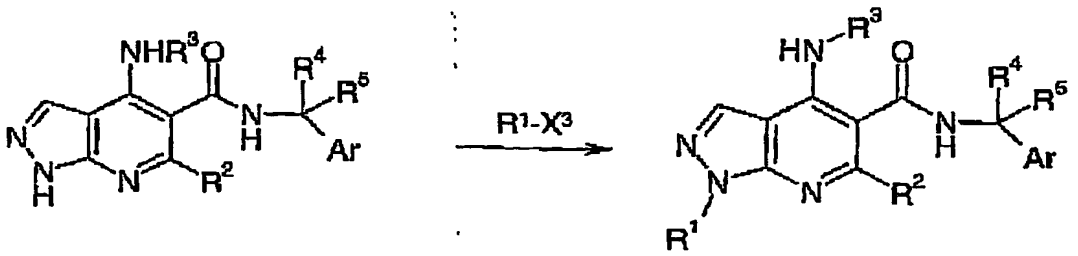
Compounds of formula (VIII) can be prepared by hydrolysis of an ester of formula (V) according to the method described by Yu et. al. in *J. Med Chem.*, 2001, 44, 1025-1027. This procedure preferably involves reaction with a base, such as sodium hydroxide or potassium hydroxide, in a solvent e.g. an aqueous solvent such as aqueous ethanol or aqueous dioxane:

(V) (VIII)

Compounds of formula (V) can be prepared as described in Process A above.

Process C

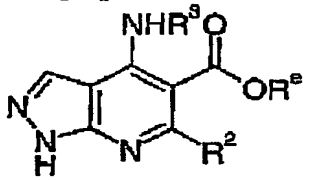
A compounds of formula (I) can be prepared by reaction of a compound of formula (IXa) with an alkylating agent of formula R^1-X^3, where X^3 is a leaving group displaceable by the 1-position pyrazolopyridine nitrogen atom of the compound of formula (IXa):



(IXa) (I)

A suitable alkylating agent of formula R^1-X^3 can be used. For example, X^3 can be a halogen atom such as a chlorine atom or more preferably a bromine or iodine atom, or X^3 can be $-O-S(O)_2-R^{36}$ wherein R^{36} is C_{1-8}alkyl (e.g. C_{1-4}alkyl or C_{1-2}alkyl such as methyl), C_{1-6}fluoroalkyl (e.g. C_{1-4}fluoroalkyl or C_{1-2}fluoroalkyl such as CF_3 or C_4F_9), or phenyl wherein the phenyl is optionally substituted by one or two of independently C_{1-2}alkyl, halogen or C_{1-2}alkoxy (such as phenyl or 4-methyl-phenyl). The reaction is preferably carried out in the presence of a base; the base can for example comprise or be potassium carbonate, sodium carbonate, sodium hydride, potassium hydride, or a basic resin or polymer such as polymer-bound 2-tert-butylimino-2-diethylamino-1,3-dimethyl-perhydro-1,3,2-diazaphosphorine. The reaction is preferably carried out in the presence of a solvent, e.g. an organic solvent such as DMF; the solvent is preferably anhydrous.

Compounds of formula (IXa) can be prepared from a compound of formula (IX):



(IX)

by hydrolysis of the ester and conversion of the resulting carboxylic acid to the amide of formula (IXa) by activation of the acid and reaction with an amine of formula $ArCR^4R^5NH_2$. The ester (IX) to acid to amide (IXa) conversion can suitably use the reagents and reaction conditions mentioned in Process A above for conversion of (IV) to (II) to (III) to (I).

The ester compound of formula (IX) can be prepared using the method described in the alternative embodiment of Process A, above.

Process D: *Conversion of one compound of formula (I), (II) or (IV) or salt thereof into another compound of formula (I), (II) or (IV) or salt thereof*

One compound of formula (I), (II) or (IV) or salt thereof can be converted into another compound of formula (I), (II) or (IV) or salt thereof. This conversion preferably comprises or is one or more of the following processes D1 to D7:

D1. Conversion of a ketone into the corresponding oxime (e.g. Examples 231-281).

D2. An oxidation process. For example, the oxidation process can comprise or be oxidation of an alcohol to a ketone (e.g. using Jones reagent) or oxidation of an alcohol or a ketone to a carboxylic acid. The oxidation process can e.g. comprise or be conversion of a nitrogen-containing compound of formula (I) or salt thereof to the corresponding N-oxide (e.g. using *meta*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid), for example conversion of a pyridine-containing compound to the corresponding pyridine N-oxide (e.g. see Examples 210-212 of PCT/EP03/11814, filed on 12 September 2003 and incorporated herein by reference, for suitable process details).

D3. A reduction process, for example reduction of a ketone or a carboxylic acid to an alcohol.

D4. Acylation, for example acylation of an amine (e.g. see Examples 329-349 and Example 353 of PCT/EP03/11814, filed on 12 September 2003 and incorporated herein by reference, for suitable process details), or acylation of a hydroxy group.

D5. Alkylation, for example alkylation of an amine or of a hydroxy group.

D6. Hydrolysis, e.g. hydrolysis of an ester to the corresponding carboxylic acid or salt thereof (e.g. see Examples 351, 488, 489, 650, 651 of PCT/EP03/11814, filed on 12 September 2003 and incorporated herein by reference, for suitable process details).

D7. Deprotection, e.g. deprotection (e.g. deacylation or t-butyloxycarbonyl (BOC) removal) of an amine group.

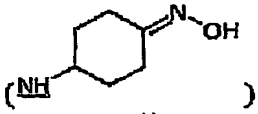
D8. Formation of an ester or amide, for example from the corresponding carboxylic acid.

D9. Sulfonylation, e.g. sulfonamide formation by reaction of an amine with a sulfonyl halide e.g. a sulfonyl chloride (e.g. see Examples 322-328 of PCT/EP03/11814, filed on 12 September 2003 and incorporated herein by reference, for suitable process details).

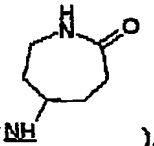
and/or

D10. Beckmann rearrangement of one compound of formula (I) into another compound of formula (I), preferably using cyanuric chloride (2,4,6-trichloro-1,3,5-triazine) together

with a formamide such as DMF, e.g. at room temperature (see L.D. Luca, *J. Org. Chem.*, 2002, 67, 6272-6274). The Beckmann rearrangement can for example comprise conversion of a compound of formula (I) wherein NHR^3 is of sub-formula (o2)

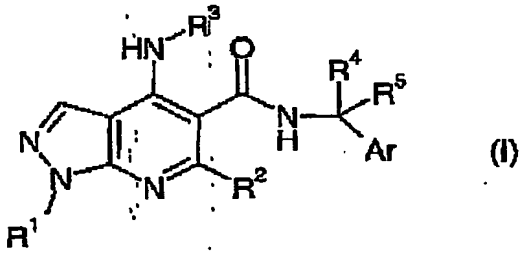


) into a compound of formula (I) wherein NHR^3 is of sub-formula



(m3) ( ), and suitable process details can be as illustrated in Examples 658 and 659 of PCT/EP03/11814, filed on 12 September 2003 and incorporated herein by reference.

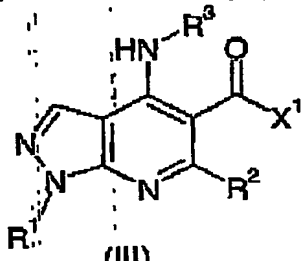
The present invention therefore also provides a method of preparing a compound of formula (I) or a salt thereof:



(I)

wherein R^1, R^2, R^3, R^4, R^5 and Ar are as defined, the method comprising :

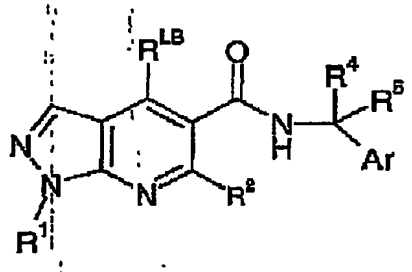
(a) reaction of an activated compound of formula (III),



(III)

wherein X^1 is a leaving group substitutable by an amine, with an amine of formula $ArCR^4R^5NH_2$;

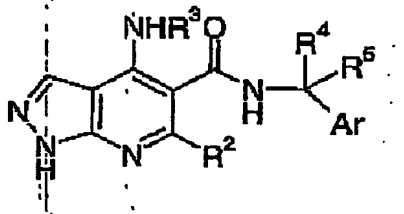
(b) reaction of a compound of formula (VII):



(VII)

, wherein R^{LB} is a leaving group which is displaceable by the amine of formula R^3NH_2, with an amine of formula R^3NH_2;

(c) reaction of a compound of formula (IXa) with an alkylating agent of formula R^1-X^3, where X^3 is a leaving group displaceable by the 1-position pyrazolopyridine nitrogen atom of the compound of formula (IXa):



(IXa)

;

or

(d) conversion of one compound of formula (I) or salt thereof into another compound of formula (I) or salt thereof;

and optionally converting the compound of formula (I) into a salt thereof e.g. a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Preferred features of methods (a), (b), (c) and (d), independently of each other, are as described above for Processes A, B, C, and D, with all necessary changes being made.

The present invention also provides: (e) a method of preparing a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of a compound of formula (I) comprising conversion of the compound of formula (I) or a salt thereof into the desired pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. (See for example Example 307).

The present invention also provides a compound of formula (I) or a salt thereof, prepared by a method as defined herein.

Medical uses

The present invention also provides a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for use as an active therapeutic substance in a mammal such as a human. The compound or salt can be for use in the treatment and/or prophylaxis of any of the diseases / conditions described herein (e.g. for use in the treatment and/or prophylaxis of an inflammatory and/or allergic disease in a mammal) and/or for use as a phosphodiesterase inhibitor e.g. for use as a phosphodiesterase 4 (PDE4) inhibitor. "Therapy" may include treatment and/or prophylaxis.

Also provided is the use of a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in the manufacture of a medicament (e.g. pharmaceutical composition) for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of any of the diseases / conditions described herein in a mammal such as a human, e.g. for the treatment and/or prophylaxis of an inflammatory and/or allergic disease in a mammal such as a human.

Also provided is a method of treatment and/or prophylaxis of any of the diseases / conditions described herein in a mammal (e.g. human) in need thereof, e.g. a method of treatment and/or prophylaxis of an inflammatory and/or allergic disease in a mammal (e.g. human) in need thereof, which method comprises administering to the mammal (e.g. human) a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as herein defined or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Phosphodiesterase 4 inhibitors are thought to be useful in the treatment and/or prophylaxis of a variety of diseases / conditions, especially inflammatory and/or allergic diseases, in mammals such as humans, for example: asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) (e.g. chronic bronchitis and/or emphysema), atopic dermatitis, urticaria, allergic rhinitis, allergic conjunctivitis, vernal conjunctivitis, eosinophilic granuloma, psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis, septic shock, ulcerative colitis, Crohn's disease, reperfusion injury of the myocardium and brain, chronic glomerulonephritis, endotoxic shock, adult respiratory distress syndrome, multiple sclerosis, cognitive impairment (e.g. in a neurological disorder such as Alzheimer's disease), depression, or pain. Ulcerative colitis and/or Crohn's disease are collectively often referred to as inflammatory bowel disease.

In the treatment and/or prophylaxis, the inflammatory and/or allergic disease is preferably chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, rheumatoid arthritis or allergic rhinitis in a mammal (e.g. human). More preferably, the treatment and/or prophylaxis is of COPD or asthma in a mammal (e.g. human).

PDE4 inhibitors are thought to be effective in the treatment of asthma (e.g. see M.A.Giembycz, *Drugs*, Feb. 2000, 59(2), 193-212; Z. Huang et al., *Current Opinion in Chemical Biology*, 2001, 5: 432-438; H.J.Dyke et al., *Expert Opinion on Investigational Drugs*, January 2002, 11(1), 1-13; C.Burnouf et al., *Current Pharmaceutical Design*, 2002, 8(14), 1255-1296; A.M.Doherty, *Current Opinion Chem. Biol.*, 1999, 3(4), 466-473; and references cited in the aforementioned publications).

PDE4 inhibitors are thought to be effective in the treatment of COPD. For example, see S.L. Wolda, *Emerging Drugs*, 2000, 5(3), 309-319; Z. Huang et al., *Current Opinion in Chemical Biology*, 2001, 5: 432-438; H.J.Dyke et al., *Expert Opinion on Investigational Drugs*, January 2002, 11(1), 1-13; C.Burnouf et al., *Current Pharmaceutical Design*, 2002, 8(14), 1255-1296; A.M.Doherty, *Current Opinion Chem. Biol.*, 1999, 3(4), 466-473; and references cited in the aforementioned publications; and G. Krishna et al., *Expert Opinion on Investigational Drugs*, 2004, 13(3), 255-267 (see especially pp. 259-261 and refs. 102-111 and 201 therein). COPD is often characterised by the presence of airflow obstruction due to chronic bronchitis and/or emphysema (e.g., see S.L. Wolda, *Emerging Drugs*, 2000, 5(3), 309-319).

PDE4 inhibitors are thought to be effective in the treatment of allergic rhinitis (e.g. see B.M. Schmidt et al., *J. Allergy & Clinical Immunology*, 108(4), 2001, 530-536).

PDE4 inhibitors are thought to be effective in the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis and multiple sclerosis (e.g. see H.J.Dyke et al., *Expert Opinion on Investigational Drugs*, January 2002, 11(1), 1-13; C.Burnouf et al., *Current Pharmaceutical Design*, 2002, 8(14), 1255-1296; and A.M.Doherty, *Current Opinion Chem. Biol.*, 1999, 3(4), 466-473; and references cited in these publications). See e.g. A.M.Doherty, *Current Opinion Chem. Biol.*, 1999, 3(4), 466-473 and references cited therein for atopic dermatitis use.

PDE4 inhibitors have been suggested as having analgesic properties and thus being effective in the treatment of pain (A.Kumar et al., *Indian J. Exp. Biol.*, 2000, 38(1), 26-30).

In the invention, the treatment and/or prophylaxis can be of cognitive impairment e.g. cognitive impairment in a neurological disorder such as Alzheimer's disease. For example, the treatment and/or prophylaxis can comprise cognitive enhancement e.g. in a neurological disorder. See for example: H.T.Zhang et al. in: *Psychopharmacology*, June 2000, 150(3), 311-316 and *Neuropsychopharmacology*, 2000, 23(2), 198-204; and T. Egawa et al., *Japanese J. Pharmacol.*, 1997, 75(3), 275-81.

PDE4 inhibitors such as rolipram have been suggested as having antidepressant properties (e.g. J. Zhu et al., *CNS Drug Reviews*, 2001, 7(4), 387-398; O'Donnell, *Expert Opinion on Investigational Drugs*, 2000, 9(3), 621-625; and H.T. Zhang et al., *Neuropsychopharmacology*, October 2002, 27(4), 587-595).

Pharmaceutical compositions and dosing

For use in medicine, the compounds of the present invention are usually administered as a pharmaceutical composition.

The present invention therefore provides in a further aspect a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or excipients.

The pharmaceutical composition can be for use in the treatment and/or prophylaxis of any of the conditions described herein.

The invention also provides a method of preparing a pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I), as herein defined, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or excipients,

the method comprising mixing the compound or salt with the one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or excipients.

The invention also provides a pharmaceutical composition prepared by said method.

The compounds of formula (I) and/or the pharmaceutical composition may be administered, for example, by oral, parenteral (e.g. intravenous, subcutaneous, or intramuscular), inhaled or nasal administration. Accordingly , the pharmaceutical composition is preferably suitable for oral, parenteral (e.g. intravenous, subcutaneous, or intramuscular), inhaled or nasal administration. More preferably, the pharmaceutical composition is suitable for inhaled or oral administration, e.g. to a mammal such as a human. Inhaled administration involves topical administration to the lung e.g. by aerosol or dry powder composition. Oral administration to a human is most preferred.

A pharmaceutical composition suitable for oral administration can be liquid or solid; for example it can be a syrup, suspension or emulsion, a tablet, a capsule or a lozenge.

A liquid formulation will generally consist of a suspension or solution of the compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt in a suitable pharmaceutically acceptable liquid carrier(s), for example an aqueous solvent such as water, ethanol or glycerine, or a non-aqueous solvent, such as polyethylene glycol or an oil. The formulation may also contain a suspending agent, preservative, flavouring and/or colouring agent.

A pharmaceutical composition suitable for oral administration being a tablet can comprise one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or excipients suitable for preparing tablet formulations. The carrier can for example be or include lactose, cellulose (for example microcrystalline cellulose), or mannitol. The tablet can also or instead

contain one or more pharmaceutically acceptable excipients, for example a binding agent such as hydroxypropylmethylcellulose or povidone (polyvinylpyrollidone), a lubricant e.g. an alkaline earth metal stearate such as magnesium stearate, and/or a tablet disintegrant such as sodium starch glycollate, croscarmellose sodium, or crospovidone (cross-linked polyvinylpyrollidone). The pharmaceutical composition being a tablet can be prepared by a method comprising the steps of: (i) mixing the compound of formula (I), as herein defined, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, with the one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or excipients, (ii) compressing the resulting mixture (which is usually in powder form) into tablets, and (iii) optionally coating the tablet with a tablet film-coating material.

A pharmaceutical composition suitable for oral administration being a capsule can be prepared using encapsulation procedures. For example, pellets or powder containing the active ingredient can be prepared using a suitable pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and then filled into a hard gelatin capsule. Alternatively, a dispersion or suspension can be prepared using any suitable pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, for example an aqueous gum or an oil and the dispersion or suspension then filled into a soft gelatin capsule.

Preferably the composition is in unit dose form such as a tablet or capsule for oral administration, e.g. for oral administration to a human.

A parenteral composition can comprise a solution or suspension of the compound or pharmaceutically acceptable salt in a sterile aqueous carrier or parenterally acceptable oil. Alternatively, the solution can be lyophilised; the lyophilised parenteral pharmaceutical composition can be reconstituted with a suitable solvent just prior to administration.

Compositions for nasal or inhaled administration may conveniently be formulated as aerosols, drops, gels or dry powders.

Aerosol formulations, e.g. for inhaled administration, can comprise a solution or fine suspension of the active substance in a pharmaceutically acceptable aqueous or non-aqueous solvent. Aerosol formulations can be presented in single or multidose quantities in sterile form in a sealed container, which can take the form of a cartridge or refill for use with an atomising device or inhaler. Alternatively the sealed container may be a unitary dispensing device such as a single dose nasal inhaler or an aerosol dispenser fitted with a metering valve (metered dose inhaler) which is intended for disposal once the contents of the container have been exhausted.

Where the dosage form comprises an aerosol dispenser, it preferably contains a suitable propellant under pressure such as compressed air, carbon dioxide, or an organic propellant such as a chlorofluorocarbon (CFC) or hydrofluorocarbon (HFC). Suitable CFC propellants include dichlorodifluoromethane, trichlorofluoromethane and dichlorotetrafluoroethane. Suitable HFC propellants include 1,1,1,2,3,3,3-heptafluoropropane and 1,1,1,2-tetrafluoroethane. The aerosol dosage forms can also take the form of a pump-atomiser.

Particle size reduction of compound of formula (I) or salt thereof

For pharmaceutical compositions suitable and/or adapted for inhaled administration, it is preferred that the compound or salt of formula (I) is in a particle-size-reduced form, and more preferably the size-reduced form is obtained or obtainable by micronisation. Micronisation usually involves subjecting the compound/salt to collisional and/or abrasional forces in a fast-flowing circular or spiral/vortex-shaped airstream often including a cyclone component. The preferable particle size of the size-reduced (e.g. micronised) compound or salt is defined by a D50 value of about 0.5 to about 10 microns, e.g. about 1 to about 7 microns (e.g. as measured using laser diffraction). For example, it is preferable for the compound or salt of formula (I) to have a particle size defined by: a D10 of about 0.3 to about 3 microns (e.g. about 0.5 to about 2 microns, or about 1 micron), and/or a D50 of about 0.5 to about 10 microns or about 1 to about 7 microns (e.g. about 2 to about 5 microns or about 2 to about 4 microns), and/or a D90 of about 1 to about 30 microns or about 2 to about 20 microns or about 3 to about 15 microns (e.g. about 5 to about 15 microns or about 5 to about 10 microns); for example as measured using laser diffraction.

In particle size measurements, D90, D50 and D10 respectively mean that 90%, 50% and 10% of the material is less than the micron size specified. D50 is the median particle size. DV90, DV50 and DV10 respectively mean that 90%, 50% and 10% by volume of the material is less than the micron size specified. DM90, DM50 and DM10 respectively mean that 90%, 50% and 10% by weight of the material is less than the micron size specified.

Laser diffraction measurement of particle size can use a dry method (wherein a suspension of the compound/salt in an airflow crosses the laser beam) or a wet method [wherein a suspension of the compound/salt in a liquid dispersing medium, such as isooctane or (e.g. if compound is soluble in isooctane) 0.1% Tween 80 in water, crosses the laser beam]. With laser diffraction, particle size is preferably calculated using the Fraunhofer calculation; and/or preferably a Malvern Mastersizer or Sympatec apparatus is used for measurement. For example, particle size measurement and/or analysis by laser diffraction can use any or all of (preferably all of) the following: a Malvern Mastersizer longbed version, a dispersing medium of 0.1% Tween 80 in water, a stir rate of ca. 1500 rpm, ca. 3 mins sonification prior to final dispersion and analysis, a 300 RF (Reverse Fourier) lens, and/or the Fraunhofer calculation with Malvern software.

An illustrative non-limiting example of a small-scale micronisation process is now given:

Micronisation Example: Micronisation of Example 73, 98, 283, 304, 306 or 307

- Purpose: To micronize Example 73, 98, 283, 304, 306 or 307 (described hereinafter), usually in an amount of approximately 600-1000 mg thereof, using a Jetpharma MC1 micronizer.
- The parent (unmicronised) and micronised materials are analyzed for particle size by laser diffraction and crystallinity by PXRD.

Equipment and material

Equipment/material	Description and specification
Jetpharma MC1 Micronizer	Nitrogen supply: Air tank with 275psi rate tubing
Analytical balance	Sartorius Analytical
Top loader balance	Mettler PM400
Digital Caliper	VWR Electronic caliper
Vibrational spatula	Auto-spat Dispenser
Materials to be micronised	Example 73, 98, 283, 304, 306 or 307

The Jetpharma MC1 Micronizer comprises a horizontal disc-shaped milling housing having: a tubular compound inlet (e.g. angled at ca. 30 degrees to the horizontal) for entry of a suspension of unmicronised compound of formula (I) or salt in a gasflow, a separate gas inlet for entry of gases, a gas outlet for exit of gases, and a collection vessel for collecting micronised material. The milling housing has two chambers: (a) an outer annular chamber in gaseous connection with the gas inlet, the chamber being for receiving pressurised gas (e.g. air or nitrogen), and (b) a disc-shaped inner milling chamber within and coaxial with the outer chamber for micronising the input compound / salt, the two chambers being separated by an annular wall. The annular wall (ring R) has a plurality of narrow-bored holes connecting the inner and outer chambers and circumferentially-spaced-apart around the annular wall. The holes opening into the inner chamber are directed at an angle (directed part-way between radially and tangentially), and in use act as nozzles directing pressurised gas at high velocity from the outer chamber into the inner chamber and in an inwardly-spiral path (vortex) around the inner chamber (cyclone). The compound inlet is in gaseous communication with the inner chamber via a nozzle directed tangentially to the inner chamber, within and near to the annular wall / ring R. Upper and lower broad-diameter exit vents in the central axis of the inner milling chamber connect to (a) (lower exit) the collection vessel which has no air outlet, and (b) (upper exit) the gas outlet which leads to a collection bag, filter and a gas exhaust. Inside and coaxial with the tubular compound inlet and longitudinally-movable within it is positioned a venturi inlet (V) for entry of gases. The compound inlet also has a bifurcation connecting to an upwardly-directed material inlet port for inputting material.

In use, the narrow head of the venturi inlet (V) is preferably positioned below and slightly forward of the material inlet port so that when the venturi delivers pressurised gas (e.g. air or nitrogen) the feed material is sucked from the material inlet port into the gasstream thorough the compound inlet and is accelerated into the inner milling chamber

tangentially at a subsonic speed. Inside the milling chamber the material is further accelerated to a supersonic speed by the hole/nozzle system around the ring (R) (annular wall) of the milling chamber. The nozzles are slightly angled so that the acceleration pattern of the material is in the form of an inwardly-directed vortex or cyclone. The material inside the milling chamber circulates rapidly and particle collisions occur during the process, causing larger particles to fracture into smaller ones. "Centrifugal" acceleration in the vortex causes the larger particles to remain at the periphery of the inner chamber while progressively smaller particles move closer to the center until they exit the milling chamber, generally through the lower exit, at low pressure and low velocity. The particles that exit the milling chamber are heavier than air and settle downward thorugh the lower exit into the collection vessel, while the exhaust gas rises (together with a minority of small particles of micronised material) and escapes into the atmosphere at low pressure and low velocity.

Procedure:

The micronizer is assembled. The venturi protrusion distance from input port is preferably adjusted to about 1.0 cm respectively (e.g. so that the narrow head of the venturi inlet is positioned below and slightly forward of the material inlet port) and is measured with a micro-caliper to make sure that it is inserted correctly. The ring (R) and venturi (V) pressures are adjusted according to the values specified in the experimental design (refer to experimental section below) by adjusting the valves on the pressure gauges on the micronizer. The setup is checked for leakage by observing if there is any fluctuation in the reading of the pressure gauges.

Note that the venturi (V) pressure is kept at least 2 bars greater than the ring (R) pressure to prevent regurgitation of material, e.g. outwardly from the material inlet port.

Balance performance is checked with calibration weights. Specified amount of the parent material (see section on experimental run) is weighed into a plastic weigh boat. The material is then fed into the micronizer using a vibrational spatula (e.g. V-shaped in cross-section) at a specified feed rate. The material feeding time and equipment pressures are monitored during the micronization process.

Upon completion of the micronising run, the nitrogen supply is shut off and the collection bag is tapped to allow particles to settle into the recovery / collection vessel at the bottom of the micronizer. The collection bag is removed and set aside. The micronised powder in the recovery vessel (collection vessel) and the cyclone (above the recovery vessel) are collected separately into different weighed+labelled collection vials. The weight of the micronised material is recorded. The micronizer is disassembled and residual PDE4 compound on the micronizer inner surface is rinsed with 70/30 isopropyl alcohol / water and collected into a flask. The micronizer is then thoroughly cleaned by rinsing and wiping with suitable solvent and dried before subsequent runs are performed.

Preferred or Optional Experimental Parameters

Parent (unmicronised) material (Procedure 1): Example 73, 98, 283, 304, 306 or 307

Balance(s) Used: Sartorius analytical

Procedure no.	Material input amount (g)	Venturi Pressure (V) / ring (R) Pressure (bar)	Intended feed-rate	Time needed to feed material (min+sec)	Actual feed-rate (g/min)
1	ca. 0.9 g	V= 8 to 10 bar R= 5.5 to 6 bar	180 to 200 mg/min		procedure not carried out

The above optional parameters can be varied using the skilled person's knowledge.

Results and/or observations

% yield = [(Material from vessel + Material from cyclone)/Material input amount] x100
In general, very approximately 50-75% yields are achievable using this method, including material from collection vessel and material from inside walls of cyclone.

Procedure 1 includes possible parameters and conditions and has not been carried out.

Alternative embodiment: Any of the Examples of the compounds or salts of the invention disclosed herein can be micronised as described above.

Dry powder inhalable compositions

For pharmaceutical compositions suitable and/or adapted for inhaled administration, it is preferred that the pharmaceutical composition is a dry powder inhalable composition. Such a composition can comprise a powder base such as lactose or starch, the compound of formula (I) or salt thereof (preferably in particle-size-reduced form, e.g. in micronised form), and optionally a performance modifier such as L-leucine, mannitol, trehalose and/or magnesium stearate. Preferably, the dry powder inhalable composition comprises a dry powder blend of lactose and the compound of formula (I) or salt thereof. The lactose is preferably lactose hydrate e.g. lactose monohydrate and/or is preferably inhalation-grade and/or fine-grade lactose. Preferably, the particle size of the lactose is defined by 90% or more (by weight or by volume) of the lactose particles being less than 1000 microns (micrometres) (e.g. 10-1000 microns e.g. 30-1000 microns) in diameter, and/or 50% or more of the lactose particles being less than 500 microns (e.g. 10-500 microns) in diameter. More preferably, the particle size of the lactose is defined by 90% or more of the lactose particles being less than 300 microns (e.g. 10-300 microns e.g. 50-300 microns) in diameter, and/or 50% or more of the lactose particles being less than 100 microns in diameter. Optionally, the particle size of the lactose is defined by 90% or more of the lactose particles being less than 100-200 microns in diameter, and/or 50% or more of the lactose particles being less than 40-70 microns in diameter. Most importantly, it is preferable that about 3 to about 30% (e.g. about 10%) (by weight or by

volume) of the particles are less than 50 microns or less than 20 microns in diameter. For example, without limitation, a suitable inhalation-grade lactose is E9334 lactose (10% fines) (Borculo Domo Ingredients, Hanzeplein 25, 8017 JD Zwolle, Netherlands).

In the dry powder inhalable composition, preferably, the compound of formula (I) or salt thereof is present in about 0.1% to about 70% (e.g. about 1% to about 50%, e.g. about 5% to about 40%, e.g. about 20 to about 30%) by weight of the composition.

An illustrative non-limiting example of a dry powder inhalable composition follows:

Dry Powder Formulation Example - Dry powder Lactose Blend Preparation

Using a size-reduced e.g. micronised form of the compound of formula (I) or salt thereof (e.g. as prepared in the Micronisation Example above), the dry powder blend is prepared by mixing the required amount of the compound/salt (e.g. 10 mg, 1% w/w) with inhalation-grade lactose containing 10% fines (e.g. 990 mg, 99% w/w) in a Teflon™ (polytetrafluoroethene) pot in a Mikro-dismembrator ball-mill (but without a ball bearing) at ¾ speed (ca. 2000-2500 rpm) for about 4 hours at each blend concentration. The Mikro-dismembrator (available from B. Braun Biotech International, Schwarzenberger Weg 73-79, D-34212 Melsungen, Germany; www.bbraunbiotech.com) comprises a base with an upwardly-projecting and sidewardly-vibratable arm to which is attached the Teflon ™ pot. The vibration of the arm achieves blending.

Other blends: 10% w/w compound/salt (50 mg) + 90% w/w lactose (450 mg, inhalation-grade lactose containing 10% fines).

Serial dilution of the 1% w/w blend can achieve e.g. 0.1% and 0.3% w/w blends.

Dry powder inhalation devices

Optionally, in particular for dry powder inhalable compositions, a pharmaceutical composition for inhaled administration can be incorporated into a plurality of sealed dose containers (e.g. containing the dry powder composition) mounted longitudinally in a strip or ribbon inside a suitable inhalation device. The container is rupturable or peel-openable on demand and the dose, e.g. of the dry powder composition, can be administered by inhalation via a device such as the DISKUS ™ device, marketed by GlaxoSmithKline. The DISKUS ™ inhalation device is usually substantially as described in GB 2,242,134 A. In such device at least one container for the pharmaceutical composition in powder form (the at least one container preferably being a plurality of sealed dose containers mounted longitudinally in a strip or ribbon) is defined between two members peelably secured to one another; the device comprises: means defining an opening station for the said at least one container; means for peeling the members apart at the opening station to open the container; and an outlet, communicating with the opened container, through which a user can inhale the pharmaceutical composition in powder form from the opened container.

Unit dose form and dosing regimens

Preferably the composition is in unit dose form such as a tablet or capsule for oral administration, e.g. for oral administration to a human.

In the pharmaceutical composition, a or each dosage unit for oral or parenteral administration preferably contains from 0.01 to 3000 mg, more preferably 0.5 to 1000 mg, of a compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, calculated as the free base. A or each dosage unit for nasal or inhaled administration preferably contains from 0.001 to 50 mg, more preferably 0.01 to 5 mg, of a compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, calculated as the free base.

A pharmaceutically acceptable compound or salt of the invention is preferably administered to a mammal (e.g. human) in a daily oral or parenteral dose of 0.001 mg to 50 mg per kg body weight per day (mg/kg/day), for example 0.01 to 20 mg/kg/day or 0.03 to 10 mg/kg/day or 0.1 to 2 mg/kg/day, of the compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, calculated as the free base.

A pharmaceutically acceptable compound or salt of the invention is preferably administered to a mammal (e.g. human) in a daily nasal or inhaled dose of: 0.0001 to 5 mg/kg/day or 0.0001 to 1 mg/kg/day, e.g. 0.001 to 1 mg/kg/day or 0.001 to 0.3 mg/kg/day or 0.001 to 0.1 mg/kg/day or 0.005 to 0.3 mg/kg/day, of the compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, calculated as the free base.

The pharmaceutically acceptable compounds or salts of the invention is preferably administered in a daily dose (for an adult patient) of, for example, an oral or parenteral dose of 0.01 mg to 3000 mg per day or 0.5 to 1000 mg per day e.g. 2 to 500 mg per day, or a nasal or inhaled dose of 0.001 to 300 mg per day or 0.001 to 50 mg per day or 0.01 to 30 mg per day or 0.01 to 5 mg per day or 0.02 to 2 mg per day, of the compound of the formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, calculated as the free base.

Combinations

The compounds, salts and/or pharmaceutical compositions according to the invention may also be used in combination with another therapeutically active agent, for example, a β_2 adrenoreceptor agonist, an anti-histamine, an anti-allergic or an anti-inflammatory agent.

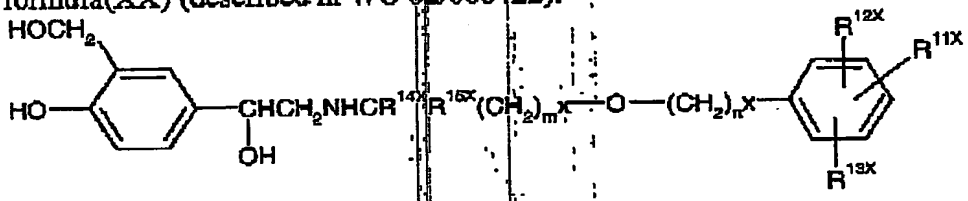
The invention thus provides, in a further aspect, a combination comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with another therapeutically active agent, for example, a β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist, an anti-histamine, an anti-allergic, an anti-inflammatory agent or an antiinfective agent.

Preferably, the β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist is salmeterol (e.g. as racemate or a single enantiomer such as the R-enantiomer), salbutamol, formoterol, salmefamol, fenoterol or terbutaline, or a salt thereof (e.g. pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof), for example the xinafoate salt of salmeterol, the sulphate salt or free base of salbutamol or the

fumarate salt of formoterol. Long-acting β_2-adrenoreceptor agonists are preferred, especially those having a therapeutic effect over a 12-24 hour period such as salmeterol or formoterol. Preferably, the β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist is for inhaled administration, e.g. once per day and/or for simultaneous inhaled administration; and more preferably the β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist is in particle-size-reduced form e.g. as defined herein. Preferably, the β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist combination is for treatment and/or prophylaxis of COPD or asthma. Salmeterol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, e.g. salmeterol xinofoate, is preferably administered to humans at an inhaled dose of 25 to 50 micrograms twice per day (measured as the free base). The combination with a β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist can be as described in WO 00/12078.

Preferred long acting β_2-adrenoreceptor agonists include those described in WO 02/066422A, WO 03/024439, WO 02/070490 and WO 02/076933.

Especially preferred long-acting β_2-adrenoreceptor agonists include compounds of formula(XX) (described in WO 02/066422):



(XX)

or a salt or solvate thereof, wherein in formula (XX):

m^X is an integer of from 2 to 8;

n^X is an integer of from 3 to 11,

with the proviso that $m^X + n^X$ is 5 to 19;

R^{11X} is $-XSO_2NR^{16X}R^{17X}$ wherein X is $-(CH_2)_{p^X}-$ or C_{2-6} alkenylene;

R^{16X} and R^{17X} are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, $C(O)NR^{18X}R^{19X}$, phenyl, and phenyl (C_{1-4}alkyl)-,

or R^{16X} and R^{17X}, together with the nitrogen to which they are bonded, form a 5-, 6-, or 7-membered nitrogen containing ring, and R^{16X} and R^{17X} are each optionally substituted by one or two groups selected from halo, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}haloalkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, hydroxy-substituted C_{1-6}alkoxy, $-CO_2R^{18X}$, $-SO_2NR^{18X}R^{19X}$, $-CONR^{18X}R^{19X}$, $-NR^{18X}C(O)R^{19X}$, or a 5-, 6- or 7-membered heterocyclic ring;

R^{18X} and R^{19X} are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkyl, phenyl, and phenyl (C_{1-4}alkyl)-; and

p^X is an integer of from 0 to 6, preferably from 0 to 4;

R^{12X} and R^{13X} are independently selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, halo, phenyl, and C_{1-6}haloalkyl; and

R^{14X} and R^{15X} are independently selected from hydrogen and C_{1-4}alkyl with the proviso that the total number of carbon atoms in R^{14X} and R^{15X} is not more than 4.

Preferred β_2-adrenoreceptor agonists disclosed in WO 02/066422 include: 3-(4-{[6-({(2R)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)-phenyl]ethyl}amino)hexyl]oxy}butyl)benzenesulfonamide and 3-(3-{[7-({(2R)-2-hydroxy-2-[4-hydroxy-3-hydroxymethyl)phenyl]ethyl}-amino)heptyl]oxy}propyl)benzenesulfonamide.

A preferred β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist disclosed in WO 03/024439 is: 4-{(1*R*)-2-[(6-{2-[(2,6-dichlorobenzyl)oxy]ethoxy}hexyl)amino]-1-hydroxyethyl}-2-(hydroxymethyl)phenol.

A combination of a compound of formula (I) or salt together with an anti-histamine is preferably for oral administration (e.g. as a combined composition such as a combined tablet), and can be for treatment and/or prophylaxis of allergic rhinitis. Examples of anti-histamines include methapyrilene, or H1 antagonists such as cetirizine, loratadine (e.g. Clarityn TM), desloratadine (e.g. Clarinex TM) or fexofenadine (e.g. Allegra TM).

The invention also provides, in a further aspect, a combination comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with an anticholinergic compound, e.g. a muscarinic (M) receptor antagonist in particular an M_1, M_2, M_1/M_2, or M_3 receptor antagonist, more preferably a M_3 receptor antagonist, still more preferably a M_3 receptor antagonist which selectively antagonises (e.g. antagonises 10 times or more strongly) the M_3 receptor over the M_1 and/or M_2 receptor. For combinations of anticholinergic compounds / muscarinic (M) receptor antagonist with PDE4 inhibitors, see for example WO 03/011274 A2 and WO 02/069945 A2 / US 2002/0193393 A1 and US 2002/052312 A1, and some or all of these publications give examples of anticholinergic compounds / muscarinic (M) receptor antagonists which may be used with the compounds of formula (I) or salts, and/or suitable pharmaceutical compositions. For example, the muscarinic receptor antagonist can comprise or be an ipratropium salt (e.g. ipratropium bromide), an oxitropium salt (e.g. oxitropium bromide), or more preferably a tiotropium salt (e.g. tiotropium bromide); see e.g. EP 418 716 A1 for tiotropium.

The anticholinergic compound or muscarinic (M) receptor antagonist, e.g. M_3 receptor antagonist, is preferably for inhaled administration, more preferably in particle-size-reduced form e.g. as defined herein. More preferably, both the muscarinic (M) receptor antagonist and the compound of formula (I) or the pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof are for inhaled administration. Preferably, the anticholinergic compound or muscarinic receptor antagonist and the compound of formula (I) or salt are for simultaneous administration. The muscarinic receptor antagonist combination is preferably for treatment and/or prophylaxis of COPD.

Other suitable combinations include, for example, a combination comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with another anti-inflammatory agent such as an anti-inflammatory corticosteroid; or a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) such as a leukotriene antagonist (e.g. montelukast), an iNOS inhibitor, a tryptase inhibitor, a elastase inhibitor, a beta-2 integrin antagonist, a adenosine 2a agonist, a CCR3 antagonist, or a 5-lipoxogenase inhibitor; or an antiinfective agent (e.g. an antibiotic or an antiviral). An iNOS inhibitor is preferably for oral administration. Suitable iNOS inhibitors (inducible nitric oxide synthase inhibitors) include those disclosed in WO 93/13055, WO 98/30537, WO 02/50021, WO 95/34534 and WO 99/62875. Suitable CCR3 inhibitors include those disclosed in WO 02/26722.

In a combination comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with an anti-inflammatory corticosteroid (which is preferably for treatment and/or prophylaxis of asthma, COPD or allergic rhinitis), then preferably the anti-inflammatory corticosteroid is fluticasone, fluticasone propionate (e.g. see US patent 4,335,121), beclomethasone, beclomethasone 17-propionate ester, beclomethasone 17,21-dipropionate ester, dexamethasone or an ester thereof, mometasone or an ester thereof, ciclesonide, budesonide, flunisolide, or a compound as described in WO 02/12266 A1 (e.g. as claimed in any of claims 1 to 22 therein), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of any of the above. If the anti-inflammatory corticosteroid is a compound as described in WO 02/12266 A1, then preferably it is Example 1 therein {which is 6α,9α-difluoro-17α-[(2-furanylcarbonyl)oxy]-11β-hydroxy-16α-methyl-3-oxo-androsta-1,4-diene-17β-carbothioic acid *S*-fluoromethyl ester} or Example 41 therein {which is 6α,9α-difluoro-11β-hydroxy-16α-methyl-17α-[(4-methyl-1,3-thiazole-5-carbonyl)oxy]-3-oxo-androsta-1,4-diene-17β-carbothioic acid *S*-fluoromethyl ester}, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof. The anti-inflammatory corticosteroid is preferably for intranasal or inhaled administration. Fluticasone propionate is preferred and is preferably for inhaled administration to a human either (a) at a dose of 250 micrograms once per day or (b) at a dose of 50 to 250 micrograms twice per day.

Also provided is a combination comprising a compound of formula (I) or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof together with β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist and an anti-inflammatory corticosteroid, for example as described in WO 03/030939 A1. Preferably this combination is for treatment and/or prophylaxis of asthma, COPD or allergic rhinitis. The β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist and/or the anti-inflammatory corticosteroid can be as described above and/or as described in WO 03/030939 A1. Most preferably, in this "triple" combination, the β_2-adrenoreceptor agonist is salmeterol or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof (e.g. salmeterol xinafoate) and the anti-inflammatory corticosteroid is fluticasone propionate.

The combinations referred to above may conveniently be presented for use in the form of a pharmaceutical composition and thus a pharmaceutical composition comprising a combination as defined above together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or excipients represent a further aspect of the invention.

The individual compounds of such combinations may be administered either sequentially or simultaneously in separate or combined pharmaceutical composition.

In one embodiment, the combination as defined herein can be for simultaneous inhaled administration and is disposed in a combination inhalation device. Such a combination inhalation device is another aspect of the invention. Such a combination inhalation device can comprise a combined pharmaceutical composition for simultaneous inhaled administration (e.g. dry powder composition), the composition comprising all the individual compounds of the combination, and the composition being incorporated into a plurality of sealed dose containers mounted longitudinally in a strip or ribbon inside the inhalation device, the containers being rupturable or peel-openable on demand; for example such inhalation device can be substantially as described in GB 2,242,134 A (DISKUS TM) and/or as described above. Alternatively, the combination inhalation device can be such that the individual compounds of the combination are administrable simultaneously but are stored separately (or wholly or partly stored separately for triple combinations), e.g. in separate pharmaceutical compositions, for example as described in PCT/EP03/00598 filed on 22 January 2003, published as WO 03/061743 (e.g. as described in the claims thereof e.g. claim 1).

The invention also provides a method of preparing a combination as defined herein, the method comprising either

(a) preparing a separate pharmaceutical composition for administration of the individual compounds of the combination either sequentially or simultaneously, or

(b) preparing a combined pharmaceutical composition for administration of the individual compounds of the combination simultaneously,

wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises the combination together with one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or excipients.

The invention also provides a combination as defined herein, prepared by a method as defined herein.

BIOLOGICAL TEST METHODS

PDE 3, PDE 4B, PDE 4D, PDE 5, PDE 6 Primary assay methods

The activity of the compounds can be measured in the assay methods shown below. Preferred compounds of the invention are selective PDE4 inhibitors, i.e. they inhibit PDE4 (e.g. PDE4B and/or PDE4D, preferably PDE4B) more strongly than they inhibit PDE3 and/or more strongly than they inhibit PDE5 and/or more strongly than they inhibit PDE6.

PDE enzyme sources and literature references

Human recombinant PDE4B, in particular the 2B splice variant thereof (HSPDE4B2B), is disclosed in WO 94/20079 and also M.M. McLaughlin et al., "A low *Km*, rolipram-sensitive, cAMP-specific phosphodiesterase from human brain: cloning and expression of cDNA, biochemical characterisation of recombinant protein, and tissue distribution of mRNA", *J. Biol. Chem.*, 1993, 268, 6470-6476. For example, in Example 1 of WO 94/20079, human recombinant PDE4B is described as being expressed in the PDE-deficient yeast *Saccharomyces cerevisiae* strain GL62, e.g. after induction by addition of 150 uM $CuSO_4$, and 100,000 x *g* supernatant fractions of yeast cell lysates are described for use in the harvesting of PDE4B enzyme.

Human recombinant PDE4D (HSPDE4D3A) is disclosed in P. A. Baecker et al., "Isolation of a cDNA encoding a human rolipram-sensitive cyclic AMP phoshodiesterase (PDE IV_D)", *Gene*, 1994, 138, 253-256.

Human recombinant PDE5 is disclosed in K. Loughney et al., "Isolation and characterisation of cDNAs encoding PDE5A, a human cGMP-binding, cGMP-specific 3',5'-cyclic nucleotide phosphodiesterase", *Gene*, 1998, **216**, 139-147.

PDE3 was purified from bovine aorta as described by H. Coste and P. Grondin, "Characterisation of a novel potent and specific inhibitor of type V phosphodiesterase", *Biochem. Pharmacol.*, 1995, 50, 1577-1585.

PDE6 was purified from bovine retina as described by: P. Catty and P. Deterre, "Activation and solubilization of the retinal cGMP-specific phosphodiesterase by limited proteolysis", *Eur. J. Biochem.*, 1991, 199, 263-269; A. Tar et al. "Purification of bovine retinal cGMP phosphodiesterase", *Methods in Enzymology*, 1994, 238, 3-12; and/or D. Srivastava et al. "Effects of magnesium on cyclic GMP hydrolysis by the bovine retinal rod cyclic GMP phosphodiesterase", *Biochem. J.*, 1995, 308, 653-658.

Inhibition of PDE 3, PDE 4B, PDE 4D, PDE 5 or PDE 6 activity: radioactive Scintillation Proximity Assay (SPA)

The ability of compounds to inhibit catalytic activity at PDE4B or 4D (human recombinant), PDE3 (from bovine aorta), PDE5 (human recombinant) or PDE6 (from bovine retina) is determined by Scintillation Proximity Assay (SPA) in 96-well format. Test compounds (as a solution in DMSO, preferably about 2 microlitre (ul) volume of DMSO solution) are preincubated at ambient temperature (room temperature, e.g. 19-23°C) in Wallac Isoplates (code 1450-514) with PDE enzyme in 50mM Tris-HCl buffer pH 7.5 , 8.3mM $MgCl_2$, 1.7mM EGTA, 0.05% (w/v) bovine serum albumin for 10-30 minutes (usually 30 minutes). The enzyme concentration is adjusted so that no more than 20% hydrolysis of the substrate defined below occurred in control wells without compound, during the incubation. For the PDE3, PDE4B and PDE4D assays, [5',8-^{3}H]Adenosine 3',5'-cyclic phosphate (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, code TRK.559; or Amersham Biosciences UK Ltd, Pollards Wood, Chalfont St Giles, Buckinghamshire HP8 4SP, UK) is added to give 0.05uCi per well and ~ 10nM final concentration. For the PDE5 and PDE6 assays, [8-^{3}H]Guanosine 3',5'-cyclic phosphate (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, code TRK.392) is added to give 0.05uCi per well and ~ 36nM final concentration. Plates containing assay mixture, preferably approx. 100 ul volume of assay mixture, are mixed on an orbital shaker for 5 minutes and incubated at ambient temperature for 1 hour. Phosphodiesterase SPA beads (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech, code RPNQ 0150) are added (~1mg per well) to terminate the assay. Plates are sealed and shaken and allowed to stand at ambient temperature for 35 minutes to 1hour (preferably 35 minutes) to allow the beads to settle. Bound radioactive product is measured using a WALLAC TRILUX 1450 Microbeta scintillation counter. For inhibition curves, 10 concentrations (1.5nM - 30uM) of each compound are assayed. Curves are analysed using ActivityBase and XLfit (ID Business Solutions Limited, 2 Ocean Court, Surrey Research Park, Guildford, Surrey GU2 7QB, United Kingdom) Results are expressed as pIC_{50} values.

In an alternative to the above radioactive SPA assay, PDE4B or PDE4D inhibition can be measured in the following Fluorescence Polarisation (FP) assay:

Inhibition of PDE4B or PDE4D activity: Fluorescence Polarisation (FP) assay

The ability of compounds to inhibit catalytic activity at PDE4B (human recombinant) or PDE4D (human recombinant) is determined by IMAP Fluorescence Polarisation (FP) assay (IMAP Explorer kit, available from Molecular Devices Corporation, Sunnydale, CA, USA; Molecular Devices code: R8062) in 384-well format. The IMAP FP assay is able to measure PDE activity in an homogenous, non-radioactive assay format. The FP assay uses the ability of immobilised trivalent metal cations, coated onto nanoparticles (tiny beads), to bind the phosphate group of Fl-AMP that is produced on the hydrolysis of fluorescein-labelled (Fl) cyclic adenosine mono-phosphate (Fl-cAMP) to the non-cyclic Fl-AMP form. Fl-cAMP does not bind. Binding of Fl-AMP product to the beads (coated with the immobilised trivalent cations) slows the rotation of

the bound Fl-AMP and leads to an increase in the fluorescence polarisation ratio of parallel to perpendicular light. Inhibition of the PDE reduces/inhibits this signal increase.

Test compounds (small volume, e.g. ca. 0.5 to 1 ul, preferably ca. 0.5 ul, of solution in DMSO) are preincubated at ambient temperature (room temperature, e.g. 19-23°C) in black 384-well microtitre plates (supplier: NUNC, code 262260) with PDE enzyme in 10mM Tris-HCl buffer pH 7.2, 10mM $MgCl_2$, 0.1% (w/v) bovine serum albumin, and 0.05% NaN_3 for 10-30 minutes. The enzyme level is set by experimentation so that reaction was linear throughout the incubation. Fluorescein adenosine 3',5'-cyclic phosphate (from Molecular Devices Corporation, Molecular Devices code: R7091) is added to give about 40nM final concentration (final assay volume usually ca. 20-40 ul, preferably ca. 20 ul). Plates are mixed on an orbital shaker for 10 seconds and incubated at ambient temperature for 40 minutes. IMAP binding reagent (as described above, from Molecular Devices Corporation, Molecular Devices code: R7207) is added (60ul of a 1 in 400 dilution in binding buffer of the kit stock solution) to terminate the assay. Plates are allowed to stand at ambient temperature for 1 hour. The Fluorescence Polarisation (FP) ratio of parallel to perpendicular light is measured using an Analyst^{TM} plate reader (from Molecular Devices Corporation). For inhibition curves, 10 concentrations (1.5nM - 30uM) of each compound are assayed. Curves are analysed using ActivityBase and XLfit (ID Business Solutions Limited, 2 Ocean Court, Surrey Research Park, Guildford, Surrey GU2 7QB, United Kingdom). Results are expressed as pIC_{50} values.

In the FP assay, all reagents are dispensed using Multidrop^{TM} (available from Thermo Labsystems Oy, Ratastie 2, PO Box 100, Vantaa 01620, Finland).

For a given PDE4 inhibitor, the PDE4B (or PDE4D) inhibition values measured using the SPA and FP assays can differ slightly. However, in a regression analysis of 100 test compounds (not necessarily compounds of the invention), the pIC_{50} inhibition values measured using SPA and FP assays have been found generally to agree within 0.5 log units, for PDE4B and PDE4D (linear regression coefficient 0.966 for PDE4B and 0.971 for PDE4D; David R.Mobbs et al., "Comparison of the IMAP Fluorescence Polarisation Assay with the Scintillation Proximity Assay for Phosphodiesterase Activity", poster presented at 2003 Molecular Devices UK & Europe User Meeting, 2nd October 2003, Down Hall, Harlow, Essex, United Kingdom).

Biological Data obtained for some of the Examples (PDE4B inhibitory activity, either as one reading or as an average of ca. 2-6 readings) are as follows, based on current measurements only. In each of the SPA and FP assays, absolute accuracy of measurement is not possible, and the readings given are accurate only up to about ± 0.5 of a log unit, depending on the number of readings made and averaged:

Example number	PDE4B pIC_{50} (± about 0.5)
1, 8, 24, 28	8.3 to 8.8
6, 7, 26, 29	7.15 to 7.45

10, 13	8.3 to 8.5
48, 73, 98, 139, 210, 218, 221, 252, 261, 282	8.7 to 10.0
Examples 308 to 314	8.0 to 9.45

A large majority or substantially all of the Examples have been tested for PDE4B inhibition using the radioactive SPA assay or the FP assay. A large majority or substantially all of the Examples tested have PDE4B inhibitory activities in the range of pIC_{50} = about 6 (± about 0.5) to about 10 (± about 0.5).

The Examples wherein R^3 = cyclohexyl (NHR^3 = sub-formula (c)), tetrahydro-2H-pyran-4-yl (NHR^3 = group (h)), 4-oxocyclohexyl (NHR^3 = sub-formula (o)), or certain other types of substituted cyclohexyl or certain heterocycles, usually or often (especially with R^1 = ethyl) have a higher level of selectivity for PDE4B over PDE5, as measured in the above enzyme inhibition assays, compared to the selectivities of comparable Examples wherein R^3 = cyclopropyl (NHR^3 = sub-formula (b)). For example, based on current measurements only, and subject to cumulative assay inaccuracies:
- Examples 21, 40, 90, 198 and 201 (wherein NHR^3 = sub-formula (h), (c), (j), (n) and (o) respectively, R^1 = ethyl) have selectivities for PDE4B over PDE5 in the range of about 3 to 20 or more times greater than the selectivity achieved for the equivalent Example 39 wherein R^3 = cyclopropyl (NHR^3 = sub-formula (b));
- Examples 43 and 44 (wherein NHR^3 = sub-formula (c) and (h) respectively) have selectivities for PDE4B over PDE5 in the range of about 4 to 8 or more times greater than the selectivity achieved for the equivalent R^3 = cyclopropyl Example 42;
- Examples 22 and 48 (wherein NHR^3 = sub-formula (h) and (c) respectively) have selectivities for PDE4B over PDE5 in the range of about 2.5 to 10 or more times greater than the selectivity achieved for the equivalent R^3 = cyclopropyl Example 47; and
- Examples 2 and 3 (wherein NHR^3 = sub-formula (c) and (h) respectively) have selectivities for PDE4B over PDE5 in the range of about 2 to 5 or more times greater than the selectivity achieved for the equivalent R^3 = cyclopropyl Example 1.

Emesis: Some known PDE4 inhibitors can cause emesis and/or nausea to greater or lesser extents (e.g. see Z. Huang et al., *Current Opinion in Chemical Biology*, 2001, 5: 432-438, see especially pages 433-434 and refs cited therein). Therefore, it would be preferable, but not essential, if a PDE4 inhibitory compound or salt of the invention were to cause only limited or manageable emetic side-effects. Emetic side-effects can for example be measured by the emetogenic potential of the compound or salt when administered to ferrets; for example one can measure the time to onset, extent, frequency and/or duration of vomiting, retching and/or writhing in ferrets after oral or parenteral administration of the compound or salt. See for example In vivo Assay 4 hereinafter for a measurement method for anti-inflammatory effect, emetic side-effects and therapeutic

index (TI) in the ferret. See also for example A. Robichaud et al., "Emesis induced by inhibitors of [PDE IV] in the ferret", *Neuropharmacology*, 1999, 38, 289-297, erratum *Neuropharmacology*, 2001, 40, 465-465. However, optionally, emetic side-effects and therapeutic index (TI) in rats can be conveniently measured by monitoring the pica feeding behaviour of rats after administration of the compound or salt of the invention (see In Vivo Assay 2 below).

Other side effects: Some known PDE4 inhibitors can cause other side effects such as headache and other central nervous system (CNS-) mediated side effects; and/or gastrointestinal (GI) tract disturbances. Therefore, it would be preferable but not essential if a particular PDE4 inhibitory compound or salt of the invention were to cause only limited or manageable side-effects in one or more of these side-effect categories.

***In Vivo* Biological Assays**

The *in vitro* enzymatic PDE4B inhibition assay described above should be regarded as being the primary test of biological activity. However, additional *in vivo* biological tests, which are optional and which are not an essential measure of efficacy or side-effects, are described below.

In Vivo Assay I. LPS-induced pulmonary neutrophilia in rats: effect of orally administered PDE4 inhibitors

Pulmonary neutrophil influx has been shown to be a significant component to the